

Estrada no longer hot issue

BY JULIET JAVELLANA

FORMER President Joseph Estrada is no longer a political issue. This was the conclusion of the PCGG.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2001 ★★ 46 PAGES 4 SECTIONS VOL. 16 NO. 213 P15

Labor chief right; Inquirer story wrong

LABOR Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas is right, and the INQUIRER is wrong. PDI Readers' Advocate Raul Palabrica investigated Sto. Tomas' complaint regarding the accuracy of the INQUIRER's July 8 banner story, "DOLE backs P125 raise." The story was based on a supposed press statement that quoted Sto. Tomas as saying that LABOR/A18

'A new day has dawned'

Ousted President finally arraigned on four counts of plunder

BY MARTIN P. MARFIL,
ALCUIN PAPA AND
PHILIP C. TUBEZA

"WITH the prosecution and indictment of a President, even while sitting as President, a new day has finally dawned for our country and people."

"The clarion call to arms, the warning must ring loud, clear and unmistakable to one and all—that, henceforth, even the powerful and the mighty will be held to account for, and explain, their acts."

The warning, which came from the resolution of the Sandiganbayan Third Division denying house arrest for deposed President Joseph Estrada, rang loud and clear yesterday with his arraignment on a charge of four counts of plunder, a crime punishable by death.

With his arraignment, Estrada becomes the first Philippine president to stand trial for corruption.

In arraignment proceedings, the accused is brought personally to court and charges are read to him. The judge then asks whether the accused pleads guilty to the charges.

As in his arraignment on June 27 for the lesser charge of perjury, Estrada did not enter a plea on the plunder charge.

"On the advice of my lawyer, I refuse to enter any plea," the deposed President told Justice Anacleto Badoy Jr.

Badoy entered a plea of "not guilty" for Estrada.

His co-accused, son Jose "Jinggoy" Estrada and lawyer Edward Serapio also refused to enter a plea. The court also entered "not guilty" pleas for Estrada's co-accused.

During his nearly three-hour court appearance, Estrada told the justices of the anti-graft court that he objected to references in formal charges that also identified him as Jose Velarde and Asiong Salonga, the aliases he allegedly used to amass ill-gotten wealth. "Asiong Salonga" is a movie about a Tondo toughie with a soft heart for the poor played by Estrada in the 1960s.

"I am not known as Jose Velarde. I am not Asiong Salonga," he addressed the court.

"I would like to clarify that I was a former mayor of San Juan, former senator of the Philippines, a former Vice President and President of the Republic of the Philippines," Estrada said.

A NEW/A18



DOWN IN THE DUMPS

As it was last year when 200 people were killed in a garbage landslide, so it is today at the Payatas dump in Quezon City where thousands continue to brave its gagging stench to earn a living. (Story on Page A4.)

AP

CRISIS OVER?

Economy to rebound if...

BY GIL CABACUNGAN JR
AND AQUILES Z. ZONIO
PDI Mindanao Bureau

BUSINESSMEN are looking forward to an economic rebound in the fourth quarter of this year if President Macapagal-Arroyo fulfills her promise of solving the crisis involving the Abu Sayyaf and other kidnap-for-ransom groups.

Raul T. Concepcion, chair of the Federation of Philippine Industries, said that with the solution of the country's serious security problems, both the government and the private sector could concentrate on putting the economy on the path to recovery.

"The second half (of the year) should provide a fresh start... with the President's commitment to pump-prime the economy as her next objective after tackling the security problems," said Concepcion, whose family is supposedly among those tagged as prime targets by kidnap syndicates.

The military expects to smash the Abu Sayyaf with the capture Sunday of Nadzmic Saabdulla alias Commander Global, said to be the chief of staff of the Sulu-based faction of the bandit group.

"Definitely, we can get information that will lead to the arrest and capture of other leaders and their members," Agence France Presse

yesterday quoted Col. Danilo Servando, spokesperson of the Armed Forces' Southern Command as saying.

Members of a composite team from the Philippine National Police, AFP and National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (Nica) recovered at noon yesterday 11 high-powered firearms and several rounds of ammunition supposedly left by Global's group in Barangay Daliao in Maasin, Sarangani province.

The arms cache consisted of four M203s, three M16s, two M14s, an M79 and a .45 cal pistol, and was reportedly hidden in a vacant house.

Abu Sayyaf members Halik ECONOMIC/A7

Rich Chinoys send kids to China amid kidnaps

BY ROCKY NAZARENO

XIAMEN, China—Wealthy Chinese-Filipino families are sending their children to schools here in a serious—and expensive—effort to avoid risks that they may be kidnapped for ransom in the Philippines.

Dr. Li Yi Ping, director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies of the Xiamen University, made this disclosure in noting the upsurge in enrolment of Chinese-Filipino students in schools in this city.

Li told Manila-based reporters in an interview at the university campus that Chinese-Filipinos sent their children to study here during periods when kidnap-for-ransom cases were reported on the rise.

"Once the situation (in Manila) improves, they return (there)," Li said.

In a press statement issued late last month, Sen. Loren Legarda said 47 members of the Chinese-Filipino community had been kidnapped for ransom during the past six months.

Ma. Corazon Yap-Bahjin, Philippine consul general to Xiamen, said the parents were putting up with the higher cost of education here and the long periods of separation just to ensure their children's safety.

"They send their children because they're afraid of kidnapping," she said.

Because the matter is largely under wraps, the Philippine consular cases were reported on the rise. RICH/A6

Cuevas takes pity on ex-boss

BY CATHY YAMSUAN

IT TOOK former Justice Secretary Serafin Cuevas a month to decide before accepting his new role as defense lawyer of deposed President Joseph Estrada in his plunder case before the Sandiganbayan.

Their old spat over the questionable parole granted to priest killer Norberto Manero apparently made Cuevas think hard before agreeing to defend Estrada.

Estrada signed an order during his presidency granting parole to Manero, skipping a legal requirement to have the convict's case reviewed first by the Department of Justice then under Cuevas.

Cuevas asserted the DOJ's participation and got the ire of Estrada.

Then Executive Secretary Ronaldo Zamora later admitted that CUEVAS/A18



FAMILY portrait of the accused at the Sandiganbayan, ousted President Estrada and Jinggoy Estrada flank Sen. Loi Ejercito-Estrada. Behind is Estrada son-in-law Beaver Lopez.

SENATE ROW Drilon 'elated'; 23 senators upset

BY CHRISTINE AVENDAÑO
AND JULIET JAVELLANA

THE ONLY senator who was "elated" by the report that President Macapagal-Arroyo had expressed preference for Sen. Franklin Drilon to head the Senate was Drilon himself.

In an apparent move to settle the festering rivalries among four senators in the People Power Coalition (PPC) aspiring for the Senate presidency, Vice President Teofisto Guingona is set to meet tonight with administration senators.

It was not certain whether tonight's meeting would include the senators from the PPC's coalition partner, the Lakas-NUCD, President Macapagal's party, which is reportedly supporting

Sen. Rene Cayetano.

Yesterday, Cayetano warned that the President's alleged choice might cause the breakup of the administration coalition.

"If the news reports are true, I am not certain if this would result in the complete unity among Senate members of the PPC to choose a common candidate for Senate president," Cayetano said in a statement.

Sen. Juan Flavio, who's bruited about as a "dark horse" in the race, warned that if PPC senators cannot get their act together, either current Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. retains the Senate leadership or it goes to the opposition.

The lone opposition candidate is Sen. Edgardo Angara.

DRILON/A6

PCGG: Marcos cases over in 2 years


ing licensure examination. (See complete list of successful examinees on www.INQ7.net.)




Mitsubishi Electric
Quality

Our policy is your assurance

At Mitsubishi Electric, achieving the best quality in all the aspects of production and after-sales service is our foremost goal. Because we believe that you deserve only total quality.



Energy Star
EPA
DOE







Mr. SLIM

Mitsubishi Electric Mini-Split Air Conditioners are compact yet efficient. Clean and quiet. Reliable and economical.

- Dehumidification system reduces dampness
- Auto-sensitive control creates correct temperature levels
- Five-angle variable airflow plus swing and auto modes

MS 09 / MU 09
P 24,800
(1.5 HP)

MS 12 / MU 12
P 28,600
(2.0 HP)

MS 18 / MU 18
P 36,300
(2.5 HP)

MS 24 / MU 24
P 42,000
(3.5 HP)



Also Available: VRF System (Variable Refrigerant Flow). Connect 1 outdoor unit with up to 18 indoor units simultaneously and control them individually.



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC
AIR CONDITIONERS



International Elevator & Equipment, Inc.
(A Joint Venture with MITSUBISHI)



HEAD OFFICE: Km. 23 West Service Road, South Superhighway, Cupang, Muntinlupa City, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos.: 842-3161 • 807-6420 • Fax Nos.: 809-3708 • 842-3169 MAKATI OFFICE: Tel. Nos.: 840-5430 to 52 • Fax Nos.: 893-
CEBU BRANCH Tel. Nos.: (032) 232-4270 • 232-4253 • Fax No. (032) 232-4283

Polished & Unpolished GRANITE TILES ON SALE AT CERAMIC PLAZA

THE MOST TILES AT THE BEST PRICES

GRANITE TILE SIZE	POLISHED	UNPOLISHED
30 cm X 30 cm (12" X 12")	P45.00	P25.00
40 cm X 40 cm (16" X 16")	P70.00	P40.00

Available at these 3 branches

E. RODRIGUEZ BRANCH

113 E. RODRIGUEZ AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
TEL. 732-1908

MUNOZ BRANCH

1207 EDSA, Muñoz, QC
Tel. 372-4887 • 372-1593
372-9016 • 372-3011

ALMANZA, LAS PINAS BRANCH

In front of SM Southmall
Unit 7, Almazan Zapote Rd.
Brgy. Almazan, LFC
Tel. 801 7152
800 713 1636 • 800 713 1637

ALL BRANCHES OPEN ON SUNDAYS 8:30 AM TO 5:30 PM

METRO MANILA BRANCHES

MANILA 1187 J Abad Santos Ave. 285-2827/253-0530 LAS PINAS Unit 30 Las Pinas Conv't., Almazan Zapote Rd., Las Pinas KABUYATAN Unit 2 #13 McArthur Hi-way 281-5271	QUEZON AVENUE 318 near St. Teles L. Almazan Zapote Rd. 558-5142 ALABANG Enchente Bldg. Unit 2 & 3 Almazan Zapote Road 800-7608 MANVOC II HWY (Bondo Mechum Bldg.) J & F Bldg. Masnar, Manila Highway Maricao Road 878 0592	SUCAT 8208 Dr. A Santos Ave. 829-5417 MUNTINUPA Chavez The King Bldg Turanan Muntinupa 801-1775
--	---	---

EXTENDED STORE HOURS: 8:30 AM TO 7:00 PM DAILY

ALMANZA, LP in front of SM Southmall Unit 7, Almazan Zapote Rd. Brgy. Almazan
Las Pinas City Tel. 801-7152 • 800-7131 • 800-7122 • 800-7134
PAGAY 811 EDSA Tel. 833 5510 • 834 7537
E. RODRIGUEZ 113 E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City Tel. 732-1908
MUNOZ 1207 EDSA Tel. 372-4887 • 372-1593 • 372-9010 • 372-3011
PAGAY Along Origa Ave., Rosario Tel. 243 2928 • 918 1042
TAYTAY Manila East Road, Karibing, Tapani Road Tel. 294 2705 • 885 3442

PROVINCIAL BRANCHES

CAIMONA Bo. Madros National Highway Caimona, Cavite (046)430-3227 MALIGLO Cruz Villalad Conv't Complex, Km. 44 McArthur Hi-way Lungsod (044)892-1858 DAGMADIBAS, CAVITE Km. 37 Aguilado Hi-way, Dagmadrillas Centro Tel. (046)416-3743	MEYCAUANTAN JP Hermosa Bldg., McArthur Hi-way, Bo. Bang (044)840-0348 BALIWAG DIT Hi-way, (044)873 3525 (044)873-0445 ANGLES Sra. Ester Bldg., 833 Maricao Rd., (045)887 4811 (045)889 3448	GUIGUINTO UNIT CDE Coudang Bldg., Tuguegarao (044)890-0005 TAILAC San Sebastian, McArthur Hi-way (045)800-0212 ALABANG Enchente Bldg. Unit 2 & 3 Almazan Zapote Road 800-7608
--	---	---

ALSO AVAILABLE in all branches:

EUROTILES

SLIP-PROOF 12" X 18" 18" 1"

CALL NOW

John Robert Powers www.johnrobertpowers.com

Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village
CONVENIENT PARKING NEARBY

ACHIEVE MEGA-SUCCESS!

GREAT DISCOUNT PACKAGES!

Study at

VERNON TAPALLA'S

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

CP 1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development

CP 2 On Grammar & Conversational English

CP 3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training

WP 1 On Business & Technical Writing

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE

MAKATI

ALABANG

QUEZON CITY

- 845-0888 / 753-1048 to 49

- 850-4758 / 850-4757

- 372-4914 / 372-4915

100% NEW & RECON

RICOH COPIERS



P 12,000. ONLY

LIQUID TYPE
SAVIN 780
220 V, 60Hz



P 21,900. ONLY

POWDER TYPE
FT 4415
220 V, 60Hz



P 46,500. ONLY

BRAND NEW
DIGITAL COPIER
PRINTER
9912-A

KATUN TONERS & PARTS
FOR CANON, RICOH,
MITA, TOSHIBA, SHARP,
SELEX, MINOLTA, ETC.

**NOW AVAILABLE:
LEASE TO OWN / RENTAL**

COPYTRADE®

Copytrade Bldg. 550 Mt. Jackson St. Sanpalo, Manila (N. Nij)
Tel. 429-8155 to 56 • 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Outlets: Cabañatuan: 463-3415 • Cebu: 253-2402
BEWARE OF FAKE SUPPLIES AND MISREPRESENTATIONS

HOMEMADE FOODSTUFF

10 courses ----- for 30 persons
P5,275 only

STEAM PRAWNS and CRABS (2 gal. x 2 kg. steamed, 2 kg. crab) • **TWO CHICKEN RELISHES** (10 W. 12 kg. each) tomatoes and milk about 50 slices • **ASPARAGUS and CHICKEN** in white sauce (10 W. 2 kg.) • **BUTTERED MUSHROOMS** (1 gallon tray) • **BEEF ROAST** slices with fresh vegetables (2 kg. meat) • **TWO PORK ROLL ROYALE** (1 li. long x 3 in. each) • **BARBECUED PREMIUM SPARE RIBS** w/ BRANDY (2 kg.) • **YOUNG CORN, QUAIL EGGS, GREEN PEAS w/ SHRIMPS** (1 gal. tray) • **SPECIAL FRUIT SALAD** (10 W. 2 kg.) creamy in potato flakes and lettuce • **POTATO SALAD**, with celery (10 W. 2 5 kg.)

CALL: 410-4521
929-9598 • 928-2765
926-6031 • 926-6029
415-3841 • 410-7228

FREE DELIVERY

<p>PULUTAN SPECIAL For 20 persons</p> <p>PULUTAN GRANDE For 20 persons</p> <p>FIESTA ESPESAL For 20 persons</p> <p>FIESTA PILIPINO For 40 persons</p> <p>FIESTA GRANDE For 20 persons</p> <p>FIESTA ROYALE For 25 persons</p> <p>BUFFET ROYALE For 50 persons</p> <p>BUFFET DE LUXE For 15 persons</p>	<p>4 courses P1,825 only</p> <p>5 courses P2,225 only</p> <p>6 courses P2,600 only</p> <p>6 courses P2,575 only</p> <p>6 courses P2,825 only</p> <p>6 courses P3,475 only</p> <p>8 courses P8,100 only</p> <p>6 courses P5,575 only</p>
--	---

CCME HOMEMADE FOODSTUFF CO. 111 Dr. Lazzaro St. C.C.

Know Myself

We will show you how

Success. Friends. Confidence. You can have it all

Powers Programs, Personality Development

Grooming, Corporate Training, Modeling, Acting

earn the worldwide John Robert Powers diploma

892 9511

ertpowers.com

ENROLL IN JULY.
SAVE P3,000
TO P20,000

Makati

DECS: No more shortage of books, classrooms soon

THE EDUCATION department has ambitiously announced an end to textbook and classroom shortages in three years.

Education Undersecretary Isagani Cruz said the influx of foreign donors would allow the department to build enough schools and buy a sufficient amount of instructional materials for public schools by 2004.

Speaking at the relaunch of the Third Elementary Education Project, Cruz said the Department of Education, Culture and Sports would ensure "zero backlog" in both textbooks and classrooms, which have been the perennial problems of state-run educational institutions.

The TEEP is an P18-billion education improvement program funded by the World Bank and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, covering the period 1997 to 2004.

It focuses on the country's 22 poorest provinces: Batanes, Apayao, Kalinga, Mt. Province, Benguet, Ifugao, Aurora, Masbate, Romblon, Eastern Samar, Biliran, Antique, Guimaras, Capiz, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Negros Oriental, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Sur, Zamboanga del Sur and Cotabato.

"(The TEEP) will lessen the gap between the rich and poor provinces," Cruz said. "If we raise the average of life of the poorest Filipinos, we will improve the average of life in general."

The DECS is set to build 1,617 new classrooms this year and repair 3,150. This will benefit some 240,000 public elementary school students.

The DECS has reported a shortage of 16,214 classrooms and 56.2 million textbooks this year.

Education Secretary Raul Roco earlier said the DECS was working on a book-to-student ratio of 1.1:1 to improve the current ratio of 1:2 but that the budget was not sufficient to make the necessary textbook purchases this school year.

Blanche S. Rivera

15 foreigners held in stock fraud

AUTHORITIES yesterday detained 15 foreigners believed to be Europeans on suspicion they were involved in stock fraud, National Bureau of Investigation officials said.

NBI and Securities and Exchange Commission agents raided an office late on yesterday in the Makati business district where the foreigners were suspected of running an operation in which they duped foreigners abroad into investing in shares of non-existent companies.

NBI officials said the foreigners were believed to be from Europe but declined to identify them. Authorities were still trying to verify the foreigners' passports at relevant embassies.

"The victims of this scam are mostly retired foreign nationals who browse the Internet to play the stock market," a senior NBI official told reporters.

The suspects were under investigation and could face charges of violating the Securities Act as they were suspected of selling securities without a license and making transactions through misrepresentation, the NBI official said.

Reuter

400 new architects

COMMISSIONER Alfonso G. Abad, acting chair of the Professional Regulation Commission, yesterday announced that 400 out of 1,085 passed the Architect Licensure Examination given by the Board of Architecture in Manila in June. The results of examination with respect to four examinees were withheld pending final determination of their liabilities under the rules and regulations governing licensure examination. (See complete list of successful examinees on www.INQ7.net.)

Gov't to declare exclusion zone around Malampaya gas project

By J. JAVELLANA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo is set to issue a proclamation declaring an exclusion and safety zone around the Malampaya natural gas project in Palawan ahead of its commercial operations in January.

Malampaya will generate about 16 percent of the country's total electricity supply beginning next year and reduce by at least \$670 million its annual oil imports of \$2 to \$3 billion, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said.

The Malampaya project is one of the positive economic developments that the President is expected to highlight in her first State of the Nation Address before the joint opening of Congress on July 23.

Tiglao said the \$4.8-billion Malampaya project, located 80 km northwest off Palawan and begun two years ago, was on schedule.

It will be on stream by October and the first sales of fuel from the Malampaya field will be in January 2002, he told a press briefing on the results of yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

Tiglao said Malampaya was a "very big development" for the economy.

"It will send a signal that we are reducing our oil dependence, that our economy is starting to improve," he said.

Tiglao said the exclusion zone was needed because of concerns about the security of the facility, which sits in the middle of the sea.

The zone will cover a one-kilometer radius around the Malampaya

platform, in which no vessels would be al-

lowed to sail. No aircraft will be allowed to fly

below 500 meters of the safety zone.

Tiglao said there was a "lively debate" at the Cabinet meeting about the state of the nation and the majority felt that "we're starting to turn the corner."

He said that after con-

fronting political problems and challenges, Ms Macapagal would now be emphasizing her "actual, real vision, which isn't just meeting tactical challenges but transforming our economy and our society."

travelling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations

8 DAYS HOLYLAND US\$ 1,450.00	JULY - AUGUST EUROPE PROMO US\$ 1,395.00	4 DAYS SYDNEY US\$ 549.00
4 Days BANGKOK US\$ 295.00	17 Days MARIAN EUROPE PILGRIMAGE Dep 10 Sept	8 Days US WEST COAST US\$ 1,580.00

PIRKKO & TROY TOURS, INC.
LG17 Cityland Pasang Tama, Extension St. Makati City
Tel: 752-5163 • 752-1762 Fax: 752-5161
E-mail: troytours@info.com.ph

FSI FranSource Inc.

HAVE YOUR OWN PROFITABLE BUSINESS the FAST & EASY WAY!

- **TRAVEL AGENCY BUSINESS**
Have your own Travel Agency For Only Pph 200,000!
- **WEB WIZARDS INC.** - Put your Business online.
Sell your products / services 24 hrs. 7 days a week worldwide.
- **"SHAKE IT"** fresh fruit shake.

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!
"Franchise your Business locally, Operate Globally"

FranSource Inc.
G/F C. C. Castro International Building # 38 Timog Avenue, Quezon City
Tel Nos. (632) 3710220 / 4153574 / 4167723 Fax: (632) 4277437
E-mail: info@corpiatravel.com
Website: http://www.fransourceinc.com

The GRAND TOURS * of

Our Lady of GUADALUPE Mexico, U.S.

RUSSIA EASTERN EUROPE from \$ 2695	AUSTRALIA & SINGAPORE \$ 699 8 days	Kuala Lumpur Nicest
MEDJUGORJE, LOURDES FATIMA (Marian Pilgrimage) Holy Land \$ 1650	ASIAN & WORLD CRUISES from \$420 (best recommendations)	

* Quality + Good Price = Best tour

GRANDEURS OF ASIA
Angkor Wat, Myanmar, Bangkok

HONGKONG \$ 256 **Domestic Tours also**
BEIJING/SHENZHEN/HONGKONG \$ 648

Adam's EXPRESS TRAVEL
Serving lifetime memories since 1985
1131 Mabini cor. Flores (near former office) • Tel.: 536-1736 to 37 • 522-3876 to 78
521-1638/51 / 98 • Fax: 521-2255 • Email: adamstvi@info.com.ph

SELL YOUR DIAMONDS TO THE SPECIALIST

Save On Interest
Our CASH will help redeem your pawned DIAMONDS plus give you EXTRA MONEY for your pocket!

JOAILLIER
Fine Jewelry

CASH PAID INSTANTLY
Buying Diamonds - 2 carats to 50 carats or bigger
Preferably Round, Emerald or Old Miner's (Antique) Cut
For information and appointment, please call between 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday to Saturday
Grand Hotel Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 817-8855 / 815-3191

RIGHT APPRAISAL RIGHT PRICE CASH

YOUR PARTNER IN ASTHMA CARE

NEBULIZER - an-angled nebulizer - 220VAC & 12VDC	NEBULIZER - compact - lightweight - easy to carry - child & Adult Mask	HUMIDIFIER - end water Filtration - humid indicator - 1.5 gal capacity - 12 hour operation	COOL MOISTURE - pure natural moisture - no water tank - 1.2 gal capacity - 12 hour operation
---	---	---	---

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED • FREE DELIVERY WITHIN METRO MANILA

PROGRESSIVE MEDICAL CORPORATION
488 G. Araneta Ave., corner Del Monte Ave., Quezon City
Tel: 732-3458 Fax: 687-2192
e-mail: wecare@pmc-ph.com

Protect your valuables the SAFE way

SECURITY SAFES are the toughest safes ever built because they are made of solid steel, providing maximum protection for your possessions.

For your security requirements, **SECURITY SAFES** will undoubtedly exceed your expectations.

235 Cutileya Bldg. Salcedo St. Leguisti Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 814-0708 / 818-1574

Available at:
• True Value Hardware stores
• Office 1 Superstores
• Office Warehouses
• MC Home Builders Depot, Inc.
• HomeWorks, Las Pinas
• Kamekrow, Quezon Ave.
• ACE Hardware, Megamall and
• all Robinson's Handyman outlets

SAVING AT (\$7470)
GUN SAFE / CS-01 (Mini), CS-02 (Mini-Max)

COMBEE F (SS-020)

PRO AID (ES-M030S)

DEPOSITARY SAFE / Mini-DEP (HOSPITALS)

RP seeks China aid on 'shabu' menace

THE PHILIPPINES will seek greater cooperation with China to stem the growing influx of a methamphetamine called "shabu" from its Asian neighbor, a government official said yesterday.

"We're initiating a stronger agreement with the Chinese government to stop this," said Miguel Coronel, executive director of the National Drug Enforcement and Prevention Coordinating Center. "It's best if we and the Chinese government will help each other in curtailing smuggling of shabu into the country."

About 721 kilograms of shabu were seized last year. Coronel said 75 percent of shabu traffickers were entering the Philippines from China, with the overall number who have been caught rising to 103 last year from 72 in 1999. So far this year, 20 of 30 foreign traffickers caught were Chinese, he said.

Ople hits Berroya transfer

SEN. Blas Ople said yesterday Central Luzon would be watching Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya who has been assigned to head the Philippine National Police command there even as other senators hailed the relief of Berroya as PNP intelligence chief.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel admitted pressure from the Filipino-Chinese community may have influenced President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision.

"I think the Filipino-Chinese community has its own preferences for the various positions in the police department, primarily because they... are targeted for kidnapping or for other acts of harassment by criminal elements," Pimentel said.

Ople, who hails from Bulacan, described Berroya as a "very controversial man" and the revamp of people according to their desserts.

Armand N. Nocum



"No one can please God without faith, for whoever comes to God must have faith that God exists and rewards those who seek Him."

HEBREWS 11:6

EUROPEAN PACKAGES

TURKEY-GREECE with CYPRUS EXTENSION	EGYPT-ISRAEL-JORDAN
ISRAEL	FRANCE-PORTUGAL-SPAIN-ITALY

ASIAN PACKAGES

HONG KONG	US\$ 285.00 4D/3N
BANGKOK	US\$ 300.00 4D/3N
SINGAPORE	US\$ 385.00 4D/3N
KUALA LUMPUR	US\$ 510.00 4D/3N

TICKETS ONLY

HONG KONG	\$288.00
BANGKOK	\$333.00
SINGAPORE	\$433.00
KUALA LUMPUR	\$398.00
LOS ANGELES / SAN FRANCISCO	\$833.00
NEW YORK	\$903.00
VANCOUVER	\$798.00
SYDNEY	\$613.00

Diadem
International Travel & Tours Incorporated
CALL: 522-7403 to 04, 522-7401
FAX: 523-7848 • E-MAIL: across@i-manila.com.ph
2002 Roxas Blvd., Cor. San Juan St., Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

Diadem
International Travel & Tours Incorporated
CALL: 522-7403 to 04, 522-7401
FAX: 523-7848 • E-MAIL: across@i-manila.com.ph
2002 Roxas Blvd., Cor. San Juan St., Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

An Invitation To A Pilgrimage To The

HOLY LAND

With ROME

13 Days

DEPARTURE DATE: SEPT. 9, 2001

Led by BO SANCHEZ

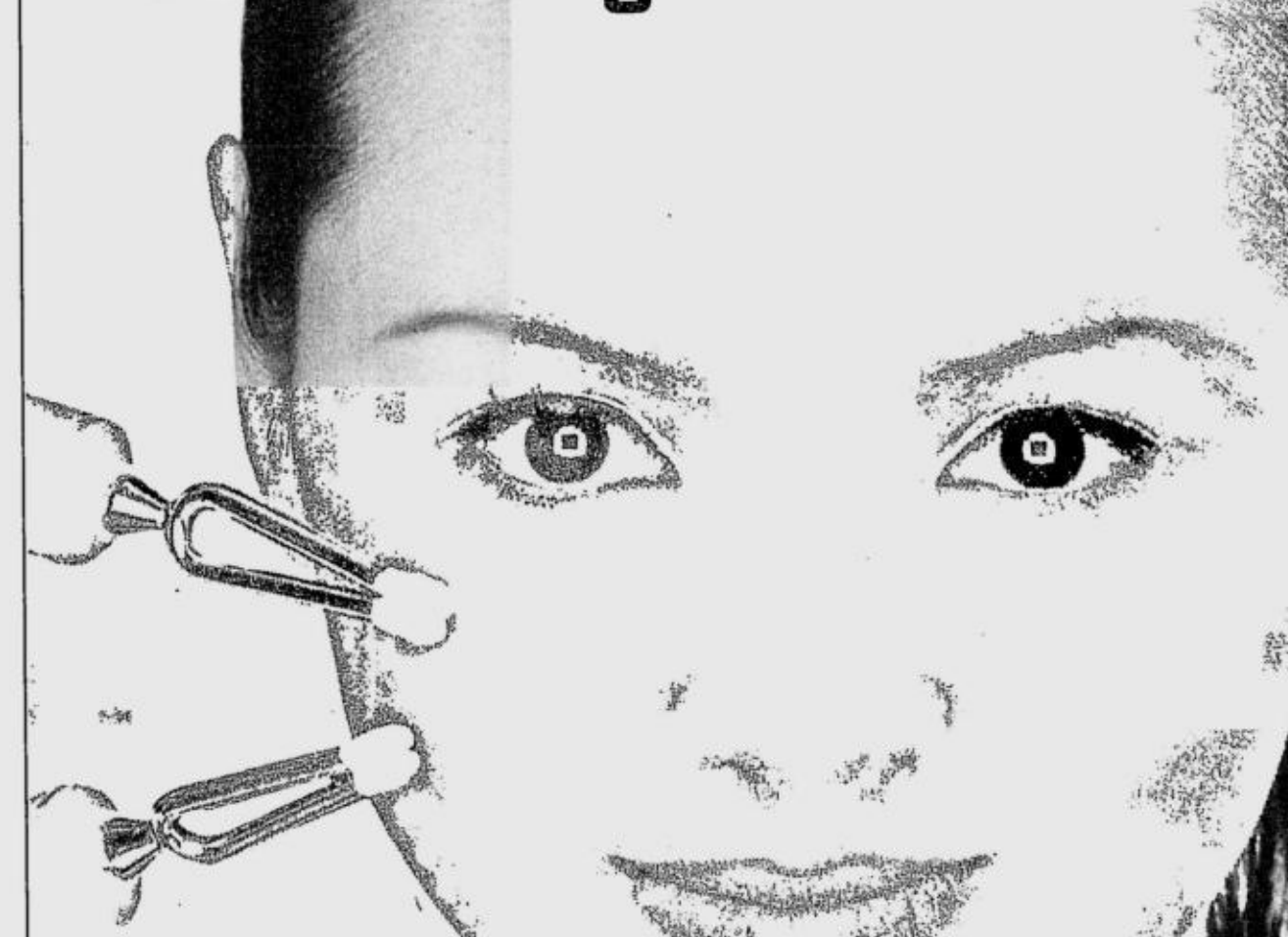
With a Pilgrimage Chaplain

EXECUTIVE RESOURCES, INC.
INTERNATIONAL PILGRIMAGE COORDINATORS

Lower Lobby, Century Park Hotel, P. Ocampo Sr., Malate, Manila
Call Tess, Jojano or Nora • Tel. Nos. 523-8581, 521-4156
FAX 526-0126 • E-mail: pilgrimage@execres.com.ph
DOT-228-2000

IATA **PTAA**

Experience a Non-Surgical Facelift!



Skin Tone Re-energizer

Uses low-frequency microcurrent impulses to firm, tone, and re-energize facial and neck muscles to prevent further deterioration of ageing skin. Through STR, facial contours improve immediately, little crow's feet and lines are minimized. So you actually get a proper "facelift effect" without the hassles of surgery. And all you'll have is firm, wrinkle-free, younger-looking skin.

Call Facial Care Centre NOW!

FREE TWO (2) SKIN TONE RE-ENERGIZER TREATMENTS
upon enrollment until JULY 15, 2001 only!

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	SHAW	ALABANG	BINONDO	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
817-3323	687-2196	372-6633	534-7701/02	842-1144	242-2148	920-7993	961-3404	233-7631
812-6080/81	687-2197	372-6634	717-0076	809-9583 / 850-4577	242-2185	920-7992 / 920-3044	961-3408	233-7633/35
Solid Mills Bldg., delos Rosa St.	Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.	410-3709 • 410-3710 Cebu Executive Bldg., Timog Avenue	Sunshine Square Plaza	Cebuank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd.	Federal Tower Bldg., Dasmarinas St.	Quezon City Congress Bldg.	Dan's Martine Bldg., Marikina Highway, San Fernando	Keppel Centre, Cebu City

ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.

MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

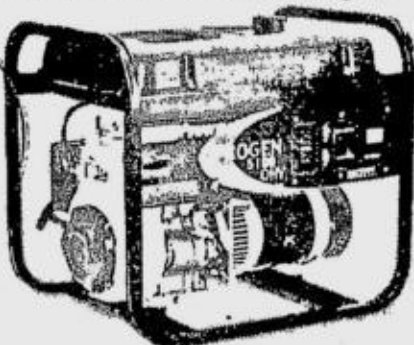
Per DTI-NCR Permit #1944, Series of 2001

Mourners gather to remember kin swallowed by Payatas dump

Introducing the NEW

Coleman Powermate
GENERATOR LINE Powered by **Robin OHV Engine**

Tough for
Contractors.
Durable for
Everyone.



Available in 4 efficient models at these suggested retail prices:

Progen 1900	Progen 2900	Progen 3500	Progen 5100
P35,000	P38,500	P43,500	P57,000

Ask your nearest dealer for launching offer:

QUEZON CITY: Anonas Construction & Industrial Supply Corp. (Kamies) 926 7467, 926 7493 (Tandang Sora) 924 2752, 924 8078 (Quezino Highway) 935-4477, 935-4476 • MANILA: PGM Industrial & Hardware Supply (Sta. Cruz) 736 5131, 734 5177 • PAMPANGA: EDL Variety Store (Doo) 0919 370 9009, 0919 553 0955 • Easimly Hardware & Electrical Supply (San Fernando) 045 961 5424, 045 961 6203 • TARIAC CITY: Robert's Motor Trading 045 982 1452 • OLONGAPO CITY: La Lucos General Merchandising 047 224 3567, 0517 434 3982 • LAGUNA: ECD Industrial Supply (Sta. Rosa) 049 837 1183 to 95 • PCD Pina Mill & Agricultural Supply (Sta. Cruz) 049 806 3097 • ANTIPOLO: Parnal Merchandise (Marosa Highway) 249 0589 to 70 • CAVITE: Asnal Cutting Equipment & Hardware (Imus) 046 970 6796, 046 471 7132 • CABANATUAN: Lukas-Ari Agri Trading 044 463 9549 • LUCENA: Super Progress Hardware 042 373 7074 • ILOILO CITY: New OK Marketing Corp. 033 3376931

For Dealership contact: COLEMAN ASIA, Units 202-204, Cornerpoint Bldg., Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center Pasig City, Metro Manila Tel: (632) 637-8421 • Fax: (632) 637-8430 • E-mail: powermate@colemanasia.com • Website: www.colemanpowermate.com

AMID swarms of flies and a gagging stench, Gloria Allado lit candles yesterday to remember her sister, who was swallowed by a massive mountain of garbage a year ago in Payatas, Quezon City.

Allado lives 50 meters from the burial place—the towering, fetid Payatas dump that collapsed July 10, 2000, and killed more than 200 people who made a living by sorting through and recycling the garbage.

"I will not leave my sister as long as I live," the 59-year-old woman said, pointing to the menacing mound of rotten fruit, moldy rice, motor oil, shredded plastic bags and other refuse that has decomposed into a toxic mud and oozes a black oily creek through her backyard.

But the 200-meter-high mountain of rot, hammered by typhoons and monsoons and baked by the tropical sun, has developed another fault line, threatening Allado and other survivors.

Despite the imminent danger and the international attention drawn by the last tragedy, little has changed in the past year in Payatas, a garbage mountain range with 120,000 inhabitants.

The mountains, with the consistency of old porridge, trembled beneath the wheels of 120 dump trucks Tuesday.

In an apocalyptic scene, hundreds of the self-described scavengers, many with skin rashes and teeth nearly as black as the poisonous mud that

caked their feet, followed in a swirl of flies, mangy dogs, diesel exhaust and flying cockroaches. They raced through boot-sucking toxic mud for the bottles, tin cans and plastic that can earn them as much as P150 a day.

Children, splashing and playing in the fetid runoff, spread skin fungi, tuberculosis, hook worms and stomach amoeba at an alarming rate, said Friedhelm Huth, a German doctor who works at a charity medical clinic near the mound.

"There are all kinds of illnesses directly from the garbage," Huth said as he examined family after family, mostly repeat patients, with recurring skin diseases. "They work in garbage, play in garbage and wash in garbage."

He said an influx of foreign aid after the accident ensured that many Payatas residents "are a bit better fed."

The government closed Payatas after the catastrophe last year but reopened it when it failed to find other dump spots and garbage started to pile up in nearby neighborhoods.

A clean air act passed last year, meant to ease air pollution in one of the world's dirtiest cities, forbid incineration and ensured the dump stayed open.

After the garbage slide, the government offered to relocate the affected scavengers, but many complained they could not find work elsewhere.

Charlene dela Cruz, a 40-year-old former

garbage picker now unemployed, was relocated 10 km away after her house was buried in the slide and her 17-year-old daughter was pulled out barely alive.

But she said garbage was the only work she knew and she could no longer earn enough to survive.

"Those were the days of plenty," she said, pining for the times before the slide. "When I need money badly now, I go to the dump, but it is very hard."

From atop a soot-black smoldering mountain, dump security chief Saturnino Oplado traced the latest growing fault line with a sweep of his arm.

A rivulet ran through the divide, collecting toxins and, according to Oplado, showed the likely direction of the next slide.

He pointed to the dozens of shacks in the bull's eye—including Allado's structure of rusted corrugated tin and crumbly concrete.

Her reply failed to hide fears for her safety.

"I know it is dangerous," said Allado, who has worked the garbage for 11 years. "But I won't leave my sister."

She trembled as she described last year's slide.

"It was a boom and a grrr and a smash. It hurt my ears. I always cry and cry now." AP

DLI GENERICS



QUALITY NA
MURA PA
SA BOTICA

Suggested Retail Price

	Price		Price
Amboxol Capsule 75 mg	6.50	Diclofenac Sod. Film Coated Tablet 50 mg	4.70
Amoxicillin Capsule 250 mg	3.75	Gibbenclamide Tablet 5 mg	2.00
Amoxicillin Capsule 500 mg	6.00	INH - Syrup 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00
Amoxicillin Suspension 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00	Isoniazid Tablet 300 mg	1.50
Ampicillin Capsule 500 mg	7.25	Loperamide HCl Capsule 2 mg	2.75
Ampicillin Powder for Injection 500 mg, vial	35.00	Melanamic Acid Capsule 250 mg	2.50
Bromhexine HCl Syrup 4 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00	Melanamic Acid Tablet 500 mg	3.00
Bromhexine HCl Tablet 8 mg	1.75	Multi-Vitamin Syrup 60 mL	56.00
Carbocisteine (SCMC) Capsule 500 mg	4.50	Multi-Vitamin Tablet	3.00
Carbocisteine Syrup (SCMC) 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	49.00	Paracetamol Syrup 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	36.50
Cephalexin Capsule 500 mg	11.00	Paracetamol Tablet 500 mg	0.90
Chloramphenicol Suspension 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	83.00	Rilampicin Suspension 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	75.00
Combi Pack - INH-Rifam-PZA 300/450/500 mg	27.00/day	Rilampicin Capsule 450 mg	15.00
Combi Pack - INH-Rifam 300/450 mg	18.00/day	Salbutamol Syrup 2 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	42.00
Co-Trimoxazole Suspension		Salbutamol Tablet 2 mg	1.75
(TM-40 mg, SMZ-200 mg), 60 mL	56.00	Vitamins B1-B6 + B12 Tablet	3.50
Co-Trimoxazole Tablet (TM-80 mg, SMZ-400 mg)	4.00		

Member: Generic Association of the Phil., Available nationwide (not yet available in Mercury Drug)

Address: 3rd Floor Lawyers Coop. Bldg., 459 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Metro Manila

Tel. Nos.: 711-3933, 741-7763, 712-4990, 741-9203, 743-1620 743-1626 FAX: 712-4921, 743-1833

E-Mail: pacific@DLI-Generics.com Complete FACTORY PRICES available at WEBSITE: www.DLI-Generics.com

DEALERS/DISTRIBUTORS ARE WELCOME

REAL REAL REAL REAL REAL REAL REAL

MURAI! MATIBAY!!!
MAY 6-MOS. WARRANTY PAID!
ALL BRAND NEW!!!



395 Banawe Ave., Quezon City 741-0718, 19 & 21

Available at the following dealers:
• San Juan, M. Mla. (726-8816 • 725-0147 • 725-8721)
• Kalookan City (356-5269)
• Mandaluyong City (531-5553 • 531-6471)
• Binondo Mla. (245-8615 • 245-8516)
• Mandalas, Valenzuela (432-9470)
• Malate, Mla. (523-6356)
• Mayon St. Q. C. (140-6344)
• Commonwealth Q.C. (427-7106 • 0917-907525)
• Proj. 6, Q.C. (926-1781 • 920-4280)
• Taguig (546-1542)
• Kaniel, Cavite (0461-4346966)
• Ilaya, Tondo, Mla. (247-3773 • 245-5459)
• Abad Santos, Mla. (262-1758)

REUNION

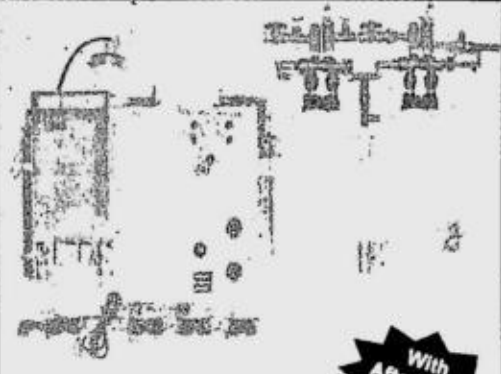
Calling all 1960 graduates of Panganiban Central Elementary School. There will be a reunion in Panganiban, Catanduanes on 22 July 2001.

For details, please contact:

Malou Urgel 7400876
Tony Velasco 9977668
Yolando Teves 6826412

Rainy day
MADNESS!!!

16th year ANNIVERSARY SALE



SOLEREX

WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM
Compact

Multi-media Filter
10 Micron x 20" Cartridge Filter
20 Micron x 20" Cartridge Filter
Activated Carbon filter
5 Micron x 20" Cartridge Filter
Reverse Osmosis System (3,000 GPD)
Reverse Osmosis Pump Brass
Ultra Violet System
Polishing Carbon Filter
Ozone system
Bottle Washing System
Filling Outlets
Operation Manual

For inquiries pls. call:
915-3879 / 915-0731 / 915-3880
Telefax: 915-3881 / Cebu Office: (032) 344-8889
E-mail: solerex@pacific.net.ph

World Population Day

July 11, 2001

Population, Development and Environment

"The foundation for all action linking population, environment and development is women's empowerment. Achieving the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development can slow rapid population growth and reduce poverty, which destroy the environment, especially in the poorest countries."

THORAYA OBAID
Executive Director, UNFPA

"Efforts to slow down population growth, to reduce poverty, to achieve economic progress, to improve environmental protection, and to reduce unsustainable consumption and production patterns are mutually reinforcing."
Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo 1994)

Improve the status of women

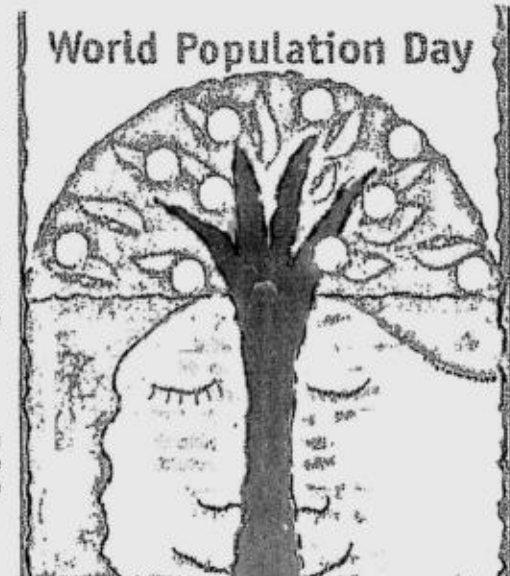
Women are often closest to the earth - farming the land, collecting water, gathering firewood. Yet many lack the freedom to manage natural resources or even own the land they work. Women are potentially the greatest agents of change. Nearly 60 percent of women in developing countries now use family planning, and fertility has fallen by one half since 1950. Slower population growth places less pressure on the environment and gives countries more time to conserve and protect natural resources.

Consumption

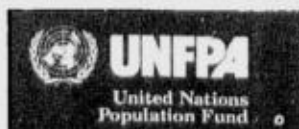
Today's use of water, air, land and forests is placing unprecedented pressure on the environment - intensified by urbanization, globalization and migration. Already, demand for water exceeds supply in parts of the world and the land available for crops is decreasing. While millions struggle for a decent standard of living, the top one fifth live a high-consumption, high waste lifestyle: the richest 20 per cent of the world's people and countries account for 86 per cent of private consumption.

Sustainable Development

More than 1.3 billion people living in absolute poverty have a right to better lives. The challenge is to improve living standards without destroying the environment. Environmental destruction, along with natural disasters had created 25 million environmental refugees by 1998. Immediate problems include increasing population pressure, food shortages, water scarcity, desertification, deforestation, extinction of plants and animals, global warming, reduced fish catches and health risks from pollution.

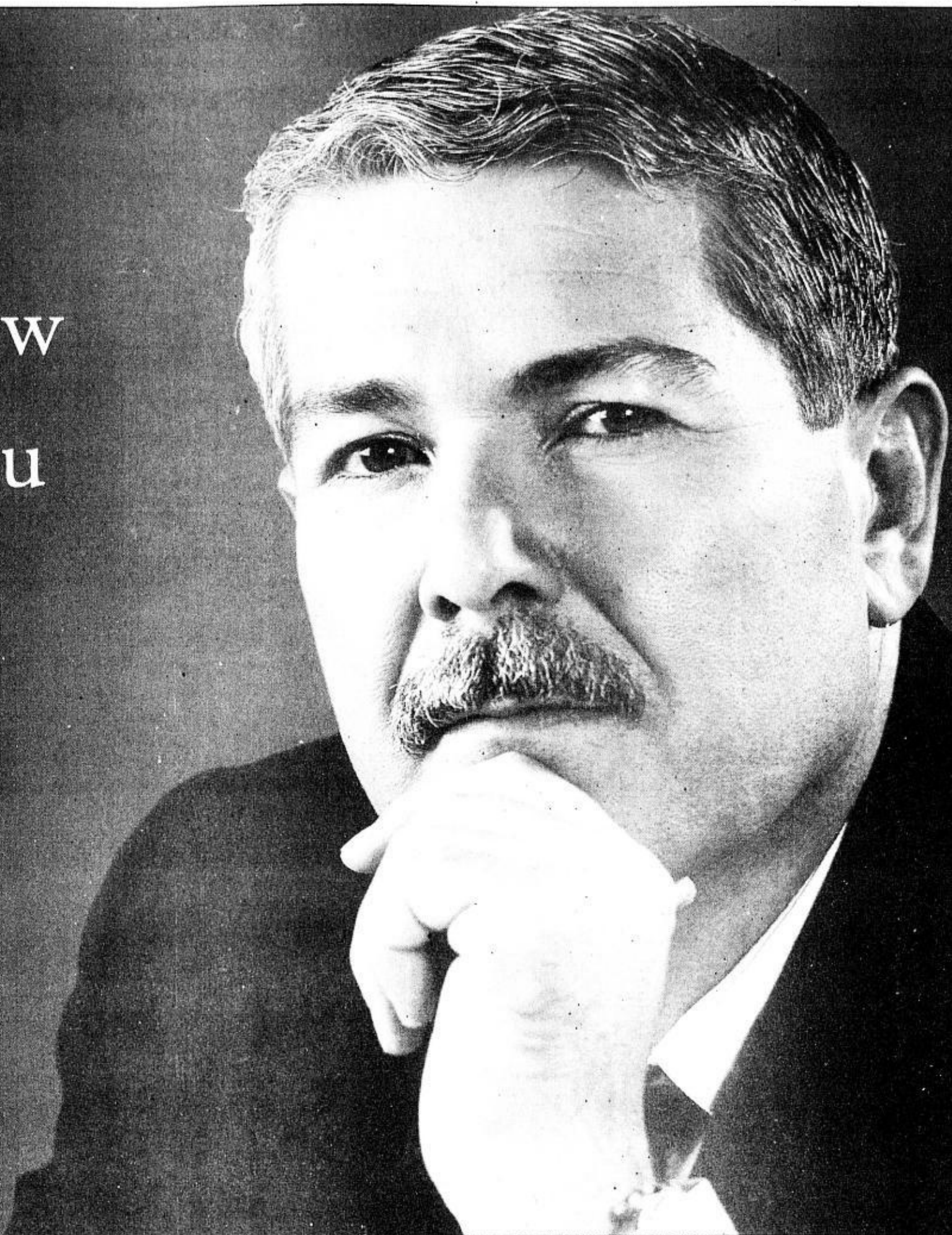


World Population Day Exhibit
Batasan Complex, Quezon City
24-27, July 2001



COMMISSION ON POPULATION

We know
what you
have in
mind.



You want the security and the best yield
for your money – guaranteed.

Introducing



Preferred Banking

At AIG Preferred Banking, you get what's best for your money and the peace of mind which comes with it. By providing you utmost security, personalized service and high yield returns, we put your financial concerns to rest. After all, **AIG Preferred Banking** is the latest initiative of Philam Savings Bank whose majority shareholders are **Philamlife**, the largest insurance company in the Philippines, and **AIG Consumer Finance Group, Inc.**, the consumer finance operation of **American International Group, Inc. (AIG)** - the leading US-based international insurance and financial services organization in the world.

Now, you may benefit from one of our unique high yielding products, **Preferred Flexi Saver**, through:

- **Monthly Premium Rate Adjustment** so you can take advantage of interest rate uptrends.
- **Guaranteed Rate** so you get protected when rates go down and your interest rate will never go lower than our guarantee.

With **Preferred Flexi Saver**, you get the best yield on market uptrends and rest assured on our guaranteed rate.



You may visit our dedicated Relationship Managers to know more about the ultimate security for your investment.

Member: PDIC
Deposits insured up to PhP100,000.00

MegaLink

PHILAM SAVINGS BANK



A Member Company of
American International Group, Inc.

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services:
Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre-Need Plans
Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards

Drilon 'elated', but 23 senators upset

(From page A1)

Aside from Drilon and Cayetano, the other PPC aspirants for the Senate's top post are Pimentel and Sen. Joker Arroyo.

In a news conference yesterday, Pimentel branded as "pure speculation" the INQUIRER report that Drilon is the President's choice, as he said he knows Cayetano would likely dispute such a report.

Pimentel also told reporters that none of the contenders has the 13 votes needed to oust him from the position.

But Sen. Robert Z. Barbers said that Pimentel of the PDP-Laban had no partymates in the Senate. So, the Senate presidency is a toss-up between Arroyo and Cayetano, said Barbers.

According to Barbers, Drilon is out because of his "perceived closeness with Angara."

"But I would rather wait for the result of my continuing talks with my colleagues in the PPC before I make any categorical statements on the matter," Drilon said in a statement.

He said the "agreed process of consultation" among PPC senators had just begun because they waited for the arrival of Pimentel, who

planed in just over the weekend.

Opposition Senators Blas Ople, Vicente Sotto and Rodolfo Biazon immediately slammed what they claimed was President Macapagal's meddling in the affairs of the Senate.

"If she flaunts her power this way and is meddling in the affairs of the Senate so overtly and so brazenly, this will not be conducive to mutual respect between the two branches of government," Ople told reporters.

Internal affair

The Senate leadership is "still an internal affair."

President Macapagal's spokesperson, Rigoberto Tiglao, responded to the INQUIRER report on her choice of Drilon as the next Senate President.

Tiglao confirmed that the President had dinner with some senators over the weekend but denied it resulted in the endorsement of any of the aspirants.

"The President has scheduled dinners with senators, groups of congressmen and most probably they tried to get her feedback informally and her assessment of what the Senate should do but this dinner was not meant to choose a particular Senate President," Tiglao explained.

There were no such dinners in the President's schedule that were released to the media.

But last Friday, the President in her news conference, confirmed meeting with aspirants for the Senate President the previous weekend.

"Well, it was quite a free-wheeling discussion. So many things were discussed," she said.

Asked if she discussed a formula to resolve the leadership contest, the President said: "Well, technically, you know, the Senate is an independent body. So really, ideally they should resolve it among themselves."

Confirmed July 1 meeting

Although the contenders for the Senate leadership confirmed the July 1 meeting with President Macapagal as reported by the INQUIRER, they denied that the President favors Drilon for the Senate leadership.

Senators Manuel Villar and Ralph Recto also denied that they were among the PPC senators that the President called over the weekend when she reportedly "floated" her preference for Drilon.

The INQUIRER named Villar and Recto in the so-called "House bloc" or former congressmen who had been elected to the Senate under the

administration's PPC.

Villar said that he had just arrived from the US last Sunday. He left the country late June.

But he and Recto said if the President does endorse any of the contenders, the PPC's new senators would give this "weight" in their decision to support the coalition's common candidate for the Senate top post.

But Recto added that aside from factoring in the President's choice, they would consider their personal preferences, the values that the contenders represent—and the role of the new senators in the Senate, particularly the committees they would be asked to head.

The INQUIRER also reported that Ms Macapagal called up senators from her party, Lakas-NUCD, but Lakas Sen. Juan Flavio said he was not aware of such a meeting.

All he recalled was that the President called up the four aspirants (with Pimentel's daughter Gwen representing him since he was then abroad) for a meeting "Friday of last week" to urge them to get their act together.

Flavio said Gabriel Claudio, presidential liaison legislative officer, also attended the meeting.

In defense of President

Pimentel, Villar and Recto defended the President, saying that it was her prerogative as head of the PPC to express interest in the Senate presidency.

Ople and Biazon said they believe they will get votes in support of their candidate, Angara.

Biazon claimed that the opposition has now 11 votes on Angara's side, two votes away from winning the Senate leadership.

He said that the opposition has only one candidate—Angara—to carry, unlike the PPC, which still has to resolve who among the four would be its candidate.

Swing votes

Noting as "fairly accurate" the diagram of the five groupings in the Senate that the INQUIRER published last Tuesday, Recto said that he believes the PPC's new senators and not Senators Ramon Revilla, Robert Jaworski, Noli De Castro and John Osmena—would make up the "swing votes."

The INQUIRER had reported that Revilla and his son-in-law, Jaworski, De Castro and Osmena, described as "floating" or independents would be assiduously courted by the candidates.

Right now, the PPC and the political opposition in the Senate each have eight solid votes for their respective candidates. So, the votes of the independents would make the winning difference.

But Recto insisted that he, Villar, Arroyo and Pangilinan, which comprise the so-called House bloc in the Senate were all united as a group, unlike Revilla, Jaworski, De Castro and John Osmena who were identified in the INQUIRER story as the ones with the swing votes.

The House bloc had endorsed Arroyo as its candidate to head the Senate.

Drilon admitted that the Senate presidency race remains undecided but he said without elaborating that "the picture has become much clearer than it was a few weeks ago."

He expressed confidence of his chances of winning the Senate presidency.

Rich Chinoy...

(From page A1)

late does not have an exact record of how many Chinese-Filipinos have enrolled in Xiamen.

There are two international schools in this coastal district that the Chinese government has transformed into an industrial zone.

\$4,000

One such institution, the Manila-Xiamen International School (MXIS), has been home to children trying to dodge abduction. A year's education in the school costs about \$4,000, not counting board and lodging expenses.

MXIS assistant administrator Celso Jalac said the school was founded by Mildred Go and her Palawan-based husband Roman Go in 1993, "just when there was a rash of kidnappings in Manila."

Jalac spoke of the case of a 13-year-old Chinese-Filipino who enrolled in the school after being released by his abductors.

"We were able to restore his self-confidence after that traumatic experience," Jalac said, adding that the boy had spent more than 10 months in captivity.

The boy is now an engineering student in Manila, he said.

Jalac, a native of Marinduque province, started his professional career as a mechanical engineer. Eventually he found himself in the teaching profession under the guidance of Mildred Go.

The MXIS offers kindergarten, elementary and high school education to children of expatriates and overseas Chinese investors.

It also has a summer program for Chinese-Filipino students wishing to learn Mandarin.

"Our enrolment has been steadily growing," said Jalac.

The MXIS is recognized by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports in the Philippines.

Jalac noted that in his seven years with the MXIS, most of those who topped the graduating classes had been Chinese-Filipinos.

He cited the performance of Batch 2001's Irene Corazon Teh, who holds the distinction of being the school's first valedictorian and who bagged most of the awards in this year's commencement exercises.

Teh is now on full scholarship as a freshman at the University of Asia and the Pacific, after earning the highest possible rank of 99 percent in the National Secondary Achievement Test.

Family atmosphere

According to Jalac, students whose parents are not in Xiamen, like the Chinese-Filipinos who have been sent away for their safety, find surrogates in the parents of their classmates.

"That is why we are able to keep an atmosphere of family here. Children are always with their parents, natural or not," he said.

Students not staying with their parents are housed in a dormitory in the school compound squared off by four-story buildings.

More importantly, a perimeter fence secures the compound.

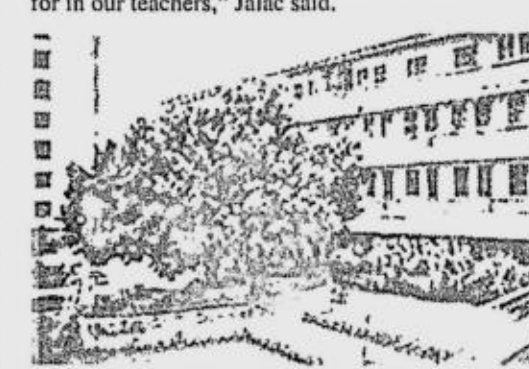
Indeed, it is peace of mind that Chinese-Filipino parents are paying for.

And because Xiamen has extensive telecommunication facilities and is only an hour and a half away from Manila by plane, their children are within easy reach.

Xiamen also has the same climate as most Philippine cities, saving the parents the worry that their children may be finding it difficult to adjust to the new environment.

An examination of the roster of Chinese-Filipinos enrolled at the MXIS showed the majority from Metro Manila and a number from Tarlac and the Visayas.

For schoolyear 2000-2001, 11 Filipinos were among the 24-member faculty. Jalac said four more Filipinos had been hired this year. "Although they have just finished college, we took them in. It is the Filipino heart for compassion and care that we look for in our teachers," Jalac said.



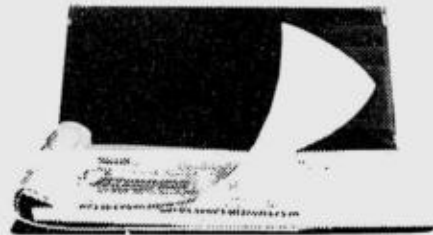
WHERE the children of the fearful Filipino-Chinese tycoons reportedly go: Manila-Xiamen International School.

BOUNCE

GOOD FOR HAIR.

GOOD FOR BASKETBALLS.

BUT NOT FOR CHECKS.



CALL 878-8787 NOW.

Introducing **iCheck**

The checking account that guards against bouncing.

iCheck gives you carbonized checks everytime you issue a check. So you get an instant record to help you balance accurately. With iCheck you just maintain an average daily balance of only P15,000, and you also get these:

- instant check encashment in any branch nationwide
- mobile and phone banking services • iDEAL ATM card • a recordbook
- a scenic checkbook • interest-earning feature

Individuals who open an iCheck account with P30,000 initial deposit up to July 15, 2001 get a free carbonized starter check booklet!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0619 Series of 2001

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to P100,000. Member **MegaLink** Network.

Call or fax this coupon to
iContact Hotline at 878-8787

Send

☐ Brochure

☐ Bank representative

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

Occupation: _____

A soft spot for tough customers

iBank
International Exchange Bank

iBank Exchange Bldg.
142 Amoroso St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

www.ibank.com.ph

Economic rebound seen

(From page A1)

Sabdan, Javier Sampang and Saltinar Sali, who were arrested along with Global in Barangay Calumpang, General Santos City, told government authorities about the cache during tactical interrogation.

Chief Supt. Manuel Raval, police chief for Central Mindanao, said Global's group left the firearms in a nearby area so they could easily retrieve these when needed.

Global and his men withdrew to the South Cotabato-Sarangani-General Santos area after the foiled raid at the Barcelo Pearl Farm Beach Resort in the Island Garden City of Samal on May 22, Raval said.

GMA's promise

Concepcion said that at the recent Tripartite Industrial Peace Council meeting, businessmen appealed to the President to prod the military and police to make a major breakthrough in the kidnapping crises in Metro Manila and parts of Mindanao.

He quoted the President as saying that peace and security problems were her top priority and that she hoped to resolve these within 90 days.

He said businessmen applauded her decision to revamp the PNP and AFP and to name a crisis manager for peace and order.

Concepcion said that once these issues were resolved, the economy would be likely to turn the corner within the next six months.

"We can't have more bad news on top of what we already have," he said.

He also said the economy was primed for a rebound because manufacturers had pared their inventory levels to the bare minimum, and any improvement in demand would immediately translate to increased production and more employment.

In his case, Concepcion said, his white appliance business was now down to a 15-day inventory, as against the normal 75-day inventory.

He said a possible increase in oil prices was the only major threat to recovery, but that this would only happen if the crude oil did not exceed \$25 a barrel and the peso did not fall below P52.90:\$1.

Magsino

In General Santos, media practitioners are preparing a manifesto calling for the relief of Col. Pedrito Magsino, commander of the 601st Brigade, for supposedly preventing them from interviewing and taking photographs of Global.

Magsino had been criticized on local radio and in print since Monday, when he whisked Global off to Manila.

Joseph Jubelag, president of the Central Mindanao PNP Press Corps, told the INQUIRER that Magsino, General Santos Mayor Pedro Acharon Jr. and Raval had promised to present Global at the Monday news conference at Camp Fermin G. Lira.

Magsino, however, took Global with him and proceeded to the airport despite pleadings from the mayor and local police officials, Jubelag said.

Intelligence agents of the police and the Nica were said to have worked for the issuance of the search warrant that led to Global's capture.

But it was only after the tactical interrogation, when it was learned that Global was among those captured, that Magsino insisted on taking custody of the Abu Sayyaf leader.

The police and military reportedly had a heated argument Sunday evening, when Magsino insisted that the Army should take custody of Global.

He said Global would be more secured at the Army camp.

Acharon and local police officials retorted that Global was safe in Camp Fermin G. Lira and that he should be detained there.

"Commander Global (is of) national and international concern. He is a high-risk passenger, so he was immediately brought to Manila on orders from higher authorities," Magsino said later.

Global, who has a P5-million prize on his head, is believed responsible for the abduction of mostly European tourists last year from the Malaysian island of Sipadan.

He was presented to the media at the Army base in Fort Bonifacio, Makati City, yesterday afternoon.

Interrogation

In Manila, Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Jose Mabanta Jr. said Global was being interrogated by military intelligence officers.

Army chief Lt. Gen. Jaime de los Santos said "all angles" concerning Filipino hostage Roland Ullah would be asked of Global.

Ullah is the last of the Sipadan hostages still in Abu Sayyaf hands.

It is not known if he is still alive, if he has joined the bandit group, or if he was a co-conspirator in the raid on Sipadan on April 23, 2000.

"We will dwell on that," De los Santos said. "We will ask Commander Global about the status of Ullah: whether he was a mere captive or a co-conspirator."

Ullah was a diving instructor at Sipadan at the time of the raid. His family earlier assailed the government for not giving sufficient attention to his release.

"Ullah is considered a hostage unless information indicates otherwise," Mabanta said.

Global served as spokesperson for the Abu Sayyaf during the five-month hostage crisis wherein at least P500 million in ransom money allegedly changed hands.

Among the other issues that the intelligence officers want to cover in Global's interrogation are the Abu Sayyaf's structure and hierarchy, manpower and firepower, funding and local networks, and international links.

Agence France Presse quoted AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan as saying that Global's arrest would give the authorities a clearer understanding of the Abu Sayyaf's operations and help foil further "terrorist" action.

"There are names coming out, their structure is becoming more clear, their hierarchy, their chain of command, their future plans and their motivations," Adan said, adding:

"Some of the things we knew. They planned to conduct terrorist activities, like bombings. We knew about that and we were ready for that."

"And their plan was to go to some tourist spots. It is a good thing that this was foiled with the arrest of this top commander."

Justice system

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, chair of the Senate panel on national security and defense, said Global's capture would test the government's policy to defer the execution of people who had committed heinous crimes including kidnapping.

"His capture is going to test the system of justice in this country, especially in the application of the death penalty as regards heinous crimes," Biazon said at a news briefing.

The President has voiced a preference to have the execution of criminals deferred. Her position drew criticism from anti-crime groups and approval from leaders of the Catholic Church.

Biazon said the government had no choice but to apply the law on Global.

"Remember that heinous crimes include kidnapping for ransom, and I think there might be sufficient evidence to conclude that kidnapping for ransom (by the Abu Sayyaf in Mindanao) indeed involves Global," the senator said.

Biazon, a former AFP chief of staff, also said the government should brace for the possibility that the Global's colleagues might seek a prisoner swap.

"What if (Abu Sayyaf leaders Khadaffy) Janjalani and Abu Sabaya say we will release the hostages if you release Global and the three others?" Biazon said. "The government will have to prepare for this eventuality."

And this situation will again put the country's judicial system to test, he said. *With reports from Carlito Pablo and Armand Nocum in Manila; AFP*



GLOBAL

Learn to communicate effectively & have your way to success with...

MD LANGUAGE EXPERTS

Speech Plus CONSULTANCY & DEVELOPMENT CENTER

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| ■ Conversational English | ■ Public Speaking | ■ Expressive Writing |
| ■ Practical Grammar | ■ Broadcasting | ■ Corporate Training |
| ■ Speech Improvement | ■ Entrepreneurship | ■ Private Tutoring |
| ■ Business Writing | ■ Coaching Services | ■ Foreign Languages |

For more inquiries:

Rm. 401-A Delta Bldg., West Ave., Q.C.

Tel. Nos.: 374-4853 / 374-4855 / 371-3738 • Cell No.: 0919-8533406

HOTEL
INTER-CONTINENTAL
MANILA

WEEKEND SUPER SPECIAL

Make it a 5-star weekend for you and your family.

Live it up at Makati's premier hotel for only
P2,001+++ per night Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.
Call 815-9711 for reservations.

For local residents only. Rate subject to 10% service charge, 10% VAT and 0.5% municipal tax.

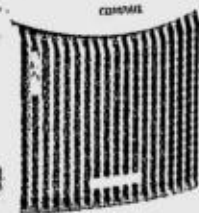
D.O.T. Accreditation # H-032-2001

PEACE OF MIND SIMPLY CAN'T BE CLONED.

Get a genuine Compaq server for only P66,000*, with the ProLiant ML330e.

If you think that your growing business can't afford the features, reliability and unmatched support that comes with a Compaq ProLiant server, think again. Introducing the ProLiant ML330e. It's the server that's designed to empower your business, with proven ProLiant server performance and a powerful Intel® Pentium® III processor, all at an affordable price. With its built-in expandability options, it will have no problem keeping up with your server needs as your business grows. Best of all, it comes with all the manageability features you expect from the world leader in server technology: The Compaq ProLiant ML330e. Because your growing business can't afford to have a server you can't depend on.

ProLiant
ML330e



INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS,
INTEGRATED INTO SOLUTIONS &
DELIVERED GLOBALLY

Call 848-1881 or 1-800-1-651-1111 (outside Metro Manila)
or email to callme@compaq.com.ph or
visit www.compaq.com

*Price is subject to change. Suggested Retail Price in Philippine Peso including VAT. Prices may vary between individual resellers.

©2000 Compaq Computer Corporation. COMPAQ and the Compaq logo Registered in U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Inspiration Technology is a trademark of Compaq Information Technologies Group, L.P. in the U.S. and other countries. Intel, the Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks and SpeedStep is a trademark of Intel Corporation. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Other products mentioned herein may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. Compaq is not liable for editorial, pictorial, or typographical errors in this advertisement.

COMPAQ
Inspiration Technology

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inquirer.net



EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding
Chairman

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 213
ISSN
0116-2642

ISAGANI YAMBOT
Publisher
LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANO
Editor in Chief
JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Managing Editor
ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.
News Editor
PERGENTINO B. BANDAYRE JR.
National Editor
JORGE V. ARUTA
Opinion Editor
ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Senior Deskperson
AMANDO DORONILA
Editorial Consultant
MARIXI R. PRIETO
Board Chairman
ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
President
RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President
for Sales and Marketing
DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President
for Corporate Services
FELIPE R. OLARTE
VP for Advertising
GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL
AVP for Circulation

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at China Roses Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati • P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines • Our new telephone numbers are 897-8805 connecting all departments: Editorial Fax 897-4793, 897-4794; Advertising 897-4807; Circulation 527-33-42, 527-33-48, 528-01-83, 528-01-86 and 528-02-13, Fax: 528-02-34.

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.



Who wants to be a millionaire?

Prize catch

THE GOVERNMENT scored a major victory in its campaign against the Abu Sayyaf with the arrest of Nadzmi Saabdulla, alias Commander Global, in General Santos City Sunday. Saabdulla, who has been tagged by the military as the Abu Sayyaf's chief of staff, was captured together with three of his men by a joint police-military force which acted on a tip given by a civilian informer. Elated by the turn of events, the administration, through Presidential Spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao, declared: "We are turning a corner now in the fight against the Abu Sayyaf."

Earlier, government agents arrested two leaders of the bandit group which gained worldwide notoriety last year when it raided a plush resort on the Malaysian island of Sipadan and abducted 21 mostly Western tourists. Abudallah Yusuf, an intelligence officer of the Abu Sayyaf, was arrested by military intelligence agents in Zamboanga City last month. Also caught last June after a shootout with policemen in Isabela, Basilan, was Jose Wong, a convert to Islam believed to be a supply officer of the bandit group. Each carried a P1-million reward on his head. However, neither comes close in importance to Saabdulla, if published reports are anything to go by.

Saabdulla, whose name may not be as familiar as, say, Abu Sabaya, seems to have the final say on major decisions as far as the Sulu faction of the Abu Sayyaf is concerned. Abu Sayyaf members say that Saabdulla usually holds his tongue while other leaders debate important issues, but when he talks everybody listens and agrees with him. In one revealing episode following the Sipadan kidnapping, Saabdulla was captured on tape virtually overruling Galib Andan, alias Commander Robot, who is generally acknowledged as the leader of the Sulu group, and telling him what to do. Other newspapers, quoting military sources, have described him as the "brains" behind the Abu Sayyaf's most daring exploits, including the Sipadan hostage-taking, the 1995 raid on Ipil, Zamboanga del Sur, and the more recent attack on another upscale resort, the Pearl Farm on Samal Island near Davao City.

In other words, Saabdulla is as big as any Abu Sayyaf leader can be. No wonder the police and the military are falling over themselves trying to get the credit for his capture. No wonder, too, that the administration is now seeing the Abu Sayyaf disintegrating after his arrest. As Tiglao put it, "We see it as another indication that the Abu Sayyaf network is gradually but surely being dismantled."

That is certainly a consummation devoutly to be wished. But perhaps it's too soon for the government to be smelling victory. Maybe because of its loose organization or maybe because it is rooted in Islamic fundamentalism, the Abu Sayyaf has shown a great capacity to absorb some very strong blows and come back stronger. If the death of its founder, Abdurajak Janjalani, didn't spell death for the organization, there is no reason to believe that the capture of its "brains"—if indeed that is what Saabdulla is—guarantees its speedy extinction.

Saabdulla's arrest shows that finally the authorities are doing things right. But it will take a few more—and bigger—successes before the government can declare that the terrible menace that is the Abu Sayyaf has been completely vanquished.

Progress?

GOOD news from the land of the free. K-mart, the US discount retailer, has decided to stop selling handgun ammunition in its more than 2,000 stores. The company made the decision after filmmaker Michael Moore and three survivors of the Columbine High School shooting complained that the easy availability of ammo was contributing to the rash of mass shootings in recent years.

FOREIGN COMMENT

Granted, in most civilized countries the very idea that bullets could be displayed on store shelves along with the gummi bears, shampoo and gardening shears would seem ridiculous. It's a capital crime in Malaysia even to possess a handgun bullet. In countries where possession is legal, customers usually must have a license, or at least fill out some serious paperwork, before they can buy handgun ammunition.

But in the United States, where about 30,000 people a year are killed with firearms, almost as many as died in the Korean War, this is called progress.

The Globe and Mail (Toronto)

I ASKED this question at the start of the Kapihan sa Manila forum last Monday. Many hands shot up. They all want to be millionaires. The problem is, very few know how to be one. The Abu Sayyaf knows how. The person who rattled on Commander Global knows how. Many politicians know how. Some police officers know how. Certain Filipino presidents know how. Bill Gates knows how. Most businessmen think they know how. But 99.99 percent of the world's population don't know how. And so the world has very few millionaires and very many poor people.

One of the two guests at the Kapihan, Social Security System Chair/President Vitaliano Nañagas II (the other was Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin) had this advice to those who want to be millionaires: "Don't join the government." This is not a very accurate advice. While the great majority of those who join the government, such as teachers and clerks, remain poor, certain smart government officials become multi-millionaires. Surely, the fastest way to be a senior official of one of the government-owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs) and government financial institutions (GFIs). Joining one of them is like owning a gold mine. In the Government Service Insurance System, even if you're not one of the top officials, you can be an instant millionaire when you retire under the GSIS Loyalty Incentive Plan.

That is why President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was irked when she learned that her subordinates in the GOCCs and GFIs had salaries many times bigger than hers. Why are they getting much bigger salaries than her when it is she who works the hardest, has the heaviest responsibilities and gets all the blame? That's not fair. So she ordered that henceforth officials of GOCCs and GFIs shouldn't get more than double what their counterparts in the national government (undersecretaries) get. Least the officials try to pull a fast one by giving themselves fat allowances, the presidential order made it clear that what she meant was "gross income," (not basic salary)

MY favorite story is that of Bill Begg, who died many years ago in the early 1970s after going to the hills to fight Marcos. Bill was a seminarian who studied at the Ateneo, where we were classmates in the Greek classics. As a seminarian, he was exempt from the Reserve Officers Training Corps, a privilege the rest of us found monumentally enviable. I kept wishing I had enrolled in the seminary myself, if only for that. I could not imagine a worse punishment in the seminary comparable to the ROTC.

But Bill eventually gravitated toward activism, in spite of or because of the Greek classics, and left the seminary. I saw him less and less in the campus, until he dropped out of sight altogether. I would learn later that his convictions drove him to opt for something more than protesting "clerico-fascism" and the many ills of society at the time. He opted to take up arms.

His taking up arms, however, took a curious turn. Having very little knowledge of how to use firearms, he enrolled at the ROTC, probably the only youth in the entire country, or the entire world, to have done so willingly. There he learned to assemble and disassemble the Garand, and a few pointers about military tactics. Having bled the course for all that it was worth, he disappeared without waiting for his grade.

I don't know whether the knowledge served him in good stead. He died a couple of years later, after heroically staying behind during an encounter to allow his comrades to escape.

None of the above is to suggest that the ROTC has any virtues whatsoever. All of the above is to suggest that when people are motivated, they will go to great lengths to learn something. Even go to the extent of joining the ROTC. It is the desire to fight for country and not a cursory knowledge of fighting that will make Filipinos defend the country when the time comes. There is no basis for the belief that the ROTC offers military preparedness, which should be invaluable when the country is threatened with invasion.

Since I got back, I've seen on TV protesting students camping out in school sites and vowing not to abandon them until the ROTC is abolished. I've gotten letters as well from many youths telling me of their ordeal and arguing passionately for the abolition of the course. My heart goes out to them.

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

including all allowances disguised under various names.

Secretary Boncodin told the Kapihan that during a meeting at Malacañang last week, the GOCC/GFI officials were given a July 25, 2001 deadline to come up with a scaled down pay scale. Those who think they're too good for the small pay are urged to resign, the President made it very clear. Nobody is resigning yet, so that means the reduced pay is still all right.

Instead of resigning, those in the GSIS are opting for early retirement before its Loyalty Incentive Plan is revised when it is discovered that it is nothing but theft on a grand scale ("plunder" in legal terms) disguised as a retirement plan. For under this qualified theft...er, plan, a GSIS vice president can be a multi-millionaire when he retires. He can collect as much as P20 million in lump sum plus P100,000 a month in lifetime pension. With such a nest egg, who would want to continue working when he can spend the rest of his life playing golf and traveling around the world?

During the forum, the much-maligned Nañagas made many in the audience shed tears when he revealed that many of his vice presidents get higher salaries than him. And that even under the reduced pay scale, he would still be getting less than the maximum allowed.

The public should be told that GOCC/GFI officials had not always been this greedy. Less than 10 years ago, they were not getting those atrociously high salaries. It was only during the term of President Ramos that they started abusing their powers and gave themselves huge sala-

ries and allowances. The excuse: they should get as much as their counterparts in the private sector.

This is not justified. The private corporations are spending their own money; the government corporations are spending the people's money who get a pittance in return for their taxes and contributions while the servants they're paying are getting millions.

Somebody said that with the reduced pay, the government may not be able to get qualified people to run the government corporations. This will never happen. There are very long lines of applicants for every government position. They even use politics, pressure, padrones, public relations, influence, sycophancy and dirty tricks to land the positions. And anyway, even with the high pay, we were not getting good executives, judging from the poor performance of the government corporations and the poor service to their members.

With the reduced pay scale, we would now be sure that those who apply do it not because of the high pay but because they really want to serve. When you ask government officials why they entered government service, they invariably answer that "they want to serve, they want to help." What they mean is that they want to serve themselves and help themselves. They want the big pay and the perks that go with the position. With the reduced pay, we don't get the hypocrites; we get only the sincere ones.

And speaking of the private sector, it is customary for its officials to volunteer pay cuts when their company has financial problems. The Philippine government is not only having financial problems; it is going bankrupt. But its highly paid officials are reluctant to forego a small part of their pay so the government they work for won't close shop.

There's the difference.

Comments are welcome at asiseeit@pacific.net.ph

What leaders?

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I never took up the ROTC. I attended it a couple of times in college, and dropped out forthwith, convinced my sanity would not survive it. The fellow who headed our unit was a Jekyll-and-Hyde type, a candidate for the Mandaluyong Mental Hospital. I used to see him in freshman English class, a big surly person, who kept quiet for reasons that did not owe to internal fortitude. He simply did not know what the hell the teacher was talking about. His mind was always elsewhere. I did not figure it was in the august halls of Parnassus. One might even say he was timid, except that he wasn't timid enough not to steal glances at his seatmate's pad paper during quizzes.

On the field, however, early on Saturday mornings, while the smell of grass and dew wafted in the air, he metamorphosed into something else. Suddenly, gone was the quiet person who sat by the corner, only the surliness remained. He glowered and shouted at the cadets, many of whom, like me, had just come from the province, lugging behind frail constitutions and even frailer egos. I do not remember his name now; Freud must be right about our monumental capacity to bury the most unpleasant things in mounds of forgetfulness. I do recall that he reveled in his power over us, it was written in his face plain as day. And he was pleased as punch each time his own superior commended him for a job well done. The swastika did not leap in my brain, what did was the face of a bully from elementary school. He had the same servile attitude to patent superiors and gleeful malice toward presumed inferiors.

It got so I dreaded the march of Saturday, the one day in the week the rest of the world prized like water in the desert. If that was their concept of instilling character in me, I thought, they could have it. I personally could not reconcile why we were trying to improve our minds in libraries and debate them in the fields. The guy that used to oppress us was by no means the exception, he was every means the rule.

I remembered this when I read the other day the letter of Jorge Lucero, a fellow who describes himself as a 45-year-old enlisted reservist of the NCR-Regional Community Defense Group. He defends the ROTC by saying among other things that, "In the ROTC, cadets are trained to be the future leaders, because it develops strong, disciplined, courteous and law abiding citizens." I do not know which ROTC he is talking about, it bears little resemblance to the ROTC most everybody else knows. Most everybody else at least who has been at the other end of the cursing and the "Wipe that smile from your face, gademit." Lucero wants to know if the people who are opposing the ROTC "belong to the weaker sex." I rest my case. If that comment is a sign of the leadership, strong character, disciplined thinking and courteousness you get from the ROTC, they can have it anytime.

Dr. Edmundo Nolasco says the ROTC produced some very good soldiers who fought the Japanese during the Japanese Occupation. True, but he talks of another time and another world. During the pre-war years, the Philippine Constabulary and local police also produced some fine professionals. That is not a reason to trust the PNP today, or indeed to not wish it to be abolished too.

The defense of country is a function of passion, not ignorance. The defense of country is a function of love of country, not blind obedience. The defense of country is a function of enlightenment, not befuddlement. I should think this country would be safer with people who will defend it to death because they love it than with people who will defend it to half-life out of fear of petty tyrants.

Marcos' efforts to militarize the institutions of society—including the police—not too far behind us, indeed with all its effects patently all around us, not least the promotion of torturers to generals and key government posts, the country would profit not just from abolishing the ROTC but from introducing a course in human rights in college. Including the PM and the Defense College, which are the most badly in need of it. Otherwise, we would be foolish worrying about invaders overrunning this country.

When the real threat are the invaders in the guise of this country's protectors.

Comments are welcome at dequiros@vasia.com

Grand Old Dame to 'comfort woman'

THE MANILA TIMES, the "Grand Old Dame" of the pre-martial law press, has changed ownership several times since its revival during the 1986 People Power Revolution.

The new owner, Dante Ang, claims he has been a "publicist" of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. I am not sure what "publicist" means in the Philippine information industry—i.e., whether it is a cosmetic phrase for PR. What I know is that Bubby Dacer, who was kidnapped at the height of the impeachment trial of former President Joseph Estrada and now confirmed dead, has also been described as a "publicist."

After its rebirth at Edsa I and a short-lived bid to revive its glory, the Roces family (the Ramon Roces wing) sold the paper to John Gokongwei. Estrada bludgeoned the paper with a libel case and implicit threats of other forms of retaliation, after it published a story saying that Estrada was an "unwitting godfather" of an allegedly irregular deal. The Gokongweis were so terrorized by this demonstration of presidential retaliatory power that they sold it to Reghis Romero. According to newspaper industry sources, Romero was fronting for Estrada crony Mark Jimenez.

Eventually, Jimenez came out to own control of the paper before the elections. It is not clear whether ownership of the Times helped him at all in his bid for Congress in the sixth district of Manila. What is clear is that the Times did not pay the salaries of its employees—although Jimenez is known to have spent generously to win the election. The new owner, Ang, is reported to have assumed the responsibility of paying Jimenez's debts to the Times staff, and this is one of the more positive aspects of the acquisition. Newspapers have no reason to publish if they can't attend to the basic responsibility of private enterprise—pay the wages of people who sweat blood to make the industry run.

Under Jimenez's control, the Times became a kept newspaper, presenting sunshine news for the Estrada administration and abandoning the fundamental adversarial role of the press as a critic of society and of government.

Ang is also identified as chair of the board of

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



the sequestered RPN 9, director of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Board, and publisher of Kabayan (which should not be associated with Sen. Noli de Castro's logo in ABS-CBN), a Filipino-language broadsheet. His acquisition of the Times expands his base in the newspaper industry.

Ang has not only claimed closeness with President Macapagal but has also made startling statements about the purpose of his acquisition of the Times.

In what seems to be a policy statement to confirm his takeover, Ang said that the "new" Manila Times "will not be pro-administration but pro-Gloria." He also said that from Day One, the Times would speak on behalf of Gloria. "In the Philippines, which paper has no bias? So we will not hide ours," he said.

These statements nearly made me choke. Where he picked up the arrant nonsense that President Macapagal and her administration can be separated by a wall is beyond me. It would seem therefore that the main reason for publishing the "new" Times is to serve as a sycophant for her personal glorification. On the question of bias, Ang even stumbles into quicksand when he talks about bias. The "bias" that papers, which have enough respect for their function in a democracy, and journalists, who have enough self-respect is the bias on behalf of the larger public interest—not a bias for a president or an administration.

Obviously Ang is introducing a new concept in newspaper publishing. Whether this concept will ensure the revival of the Times, let alone its survival, remains to be seen. The test of its survival is to be determined by whether the public

finds it credible and independent enough as a mouthpiece of the public interest.

Ang's notions of sycophancy do not make it any better than those of Jimenez. Indeed, the Times' changeover is merely a transfer of control from one sycophant (of Estrada) to another (of Macapagal).

To use a metaphor, the Times has metamorphosed from the status of having been the illustrious, independent Manila Times that was the gadfly of society and government during the pre-martial law days to that of a "comfort woman" for the Estrada administration and now the Macapagal administration.

Whether the "new" Times, with its stated policy, would help the Macapagal administration at all is problematic. President Macapagal enjoys today a more sympathetic press than Estrada did, and the reason for this is that she has delivered better governance than her predecessor. True, she undergoes critical scrutiny from the press, but it's her performance that gives her a relatively less critical press.

The ultimate test for the Macapagal administration's effort to win public opinion to its side is its performance—not the press that aims to be singing praises which she does not deserve. Her strength lies not on publicists who take control of newspapers proclaimed to be "biased for Gloria."

If she is not doing her job well, a hundred "Times" and protective "publicists" won't help her survive until 2004. The lessons derived from the Estrada presidency in his relationship with the press should be instructive.

Estrada had the overwhelming support of the AM radio, nationwide, and government TV for propaganda, and had a sympathetic group of TV commentators, as well as a raft of pro-Estrada smaller newspapers, flooding the country with his messages. But this magnification of pro-Estrada information did not save him from being deposed.

President Macapagal does not need the Times or Ang. She can stand on her own record. The obvious beneficiary of the Times' acquisition is Ang himself—it creates an illusion that he can influence public opinion.

How to help

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



cover from the "blues" before getting pregnant again and starting the arduous work of caring for another infant, could not have prevented the tragedy. She and her husband, it was reported, wanted to have a large family. But they didn't have to have all of their children so close together. If, instead of anti-depressants she had relied on contraception for relief, would the killings not have taken place?

I could also imagine the bedlam and chaos of the Yates home, what with five children, all age 7 and below, constantly underfoot. A recent "Oprah" show tackled the "time bombs" that lurk inside the bodies of stressed-out single mothers of very young children. With constant demands on their energy, attention and time, the women were suffering from migraine, high blood pressure and shortness of breath, but couldn't spare the time to consult a doctor. After a feature on one such harried young mother, the irrepressible Oprah Winfrey exclaimed: "What can we do for her? Give her a housekeeper!"

THE FIRST thing we, as a society, can do to help mothers in their work of raising children is to admit that mothers can't do it all by themselves. About the most cruel irony to emerge out of the women's movement in the past decades is that, having convinced women that they, too belong in the world of production (or work outside the home), society continued to insist that the world of reproduction (the "work" of bearing and rearing children and looking after the family) was theirs alone.

Don't you wonder sometimes why women are so angry? Why, it's like we took a rock and started to hit ourselves with it!

The answer to the injustice of the "double

burden" is not to isolate women from the world outside the home. Rather, it is to get men to enter the world and work of reproduction, too. I don't know if getting Yates' husband, an engineer at the Nasa, to help out more with the children would have helped his wife out of her psychosis. But a little "time off" from her brood of five would undoubtedly have helped ease some of the pressure from Andrea.

Not every mother can afford paid help, and even upper- and middle-class Filipinas, who used to take *yayas* for granted, are discovering that finding, and keeping, good help has gotten increasingly more difficult. Day care seems to be an obvious solution, but so many segments of society still seem to think it's a luxury in a poor country like ours. On the contrary. With so many mothers desperate to find work to feed their children, good quality day care is a necessity for both mothers and children.

IT'S rather more difficult to find practical policy implications in Rosalina Sabala's case. Her "madness," on the surface, seems to have been triggered more by jealousy and obsession than depression and stress arising from the burdens of motherhood.

You have to wonder, though, why she felt leaving this life and taking her sons with her was preferable to losing her husband to another woman.

Could it be that her sense of identity was so tied up with being "his" wife and the mother of "his" children that she felt his leaving her would be the "death" of her?

I don't know if we can legislate that all husbands love their wives and children unconditionally and remain faithful to their vows. But in the absence of a divorce law in this country, it's a reality that husbands, more than wives, enjoy more leeway in terms of exploring other relationships. That some mothers are driven to seek revenge by killing themselves and their children seems the starkest testament to their lack of power and choices.

Comments are welcome at rj david@inquirer.com.ph

What photographs can we print?

LAST Sunday our Lifestyle editors had to explain to some irate readers why, a week earlier, they allowed Tim Yap to run a colored photograph of two gay men kissing. Can there be no other explanation except that the photograph was taken on Gay Pride Day, and that kissing is but part of an intimate relationship—gay, straight, lesbian, or bisexual? Some readers even suspected a gay agenda when there was none.

On Monday, both the editorial and the column of the Reader's Advocate explained the debate our editors went through when they published the front-page photograph of the kidnapped British national whose ear was snipped off with scissors to speed up the payment of a reported P10-million ransom. The photograph, reproduced from a videotape sent to the victim's family, made my stomach turn and I cannot imagine how distressing viewing the actual footage would be. We know that kidnapping goes on but we do not mind unless it happens to us or someone we know. That photograph clearly illustrated how brutal a business kidnapping can be. Was it news? Was the INQUIRER asked? Should we have published the picture or not? Is it a picture you want to see while eating breakfast? That debate goes on every day when the editors choose what to print on Page 1. I presume much thought goes into the choice of Page 1 photos—it's not done on whim.

Disturbing photographs once got me into trouble and these were taken during the Filipino-American War. Early in my career I illustrated a July 4 feature with photographs of dead Filipino soldiers piled one on top of another in trenches. If that was not enough, I used another photo showing Filipinos digging a shallow grave for their dead comrades. At the center of this photograph was a group of smiling American soldiers posing by the dead as if they were trophies of a fox hunt. Some readers who carried fond memories of American GIs returning with

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Gen. Douglas MacArthur to liberate the Philippines from the Japanese in 1945 were shocked. What was the point of printing these? Was the author a communist? Could I prove that the dead Filipinos were killed by Americans? It was one thing to read about the Filipino-American War and quite a different experience to see actual photographs.

For want of a clear reproduction quality print I could not use a faded photograph of the infamous "water cure." This photograph had American soldiers interrogating a "insurrecto" by holding him down and pouring water into his nose. Later a stick was placed in his mouth to keep it open, the better to pour a whole pail of water in and simulate the experience of drowning on dry land. The worst part of this exercise is when one or two of the soldiers jumped on the victim's bloated stomach forcing the water out of the mouth, nose and, sometimes, the ears! Naturally, reading about the "water cure" and seeing a photograph were two separate but complementary things.

Of course, cruelty was not a monopoly of the Americans, the Spaniards had their own form of terror, the most famous being the garrote made famous by Fathers Gomez, Burgos and Zamora in 1872. This contraption had a seat of wood and a metal clamp that people presume snuffs the life out of victims in a slow and agonizing death. Contrary to popular belief, the garrote is more humane than it looks. The metal crossbar was

placed snugly on the neck of the victim and with one quick twist, the executioner broke the collarbone, producing instant death. As we know from historical accounts, execution by decapitation was not efficient, especially if the blade is dull or worse, if the executioner misses the mark and has to chop off the head with a second blow. Same thing with a firing squad, when bullets miss the mark, the poor wounded victim has to be shot again—and again if they miss—till he or she dies. The garrote, as shown in American-period postcards, was meant to contrast evil Spain as compared to those bringing so-called "Benevolent Assimilation." While photos of the garrote during the American period were staged and harmless, we have one photograph of a real execution that has been made into a limited edition print by Bencab whose works remain in great demand even if they tackle death by garrote.

Nobody is bothered by the photographs of Jose Rizal's execution because there is no blood and gore here. Surely, some will be distressed by the pictures of Rizal's mother Teodora Alonso or his brother Paciano taken from an open coffin.

How do we determine what to print? What about pictures of Japanese atrocities during the World War II? We have heard all the stories, but there are no photographs in our textbooks despite availability of hundreds of photographs taken after the war to document war crimes. What about more recent history? How would our editors decide on the pictures of Ninoy Aquino assassinated on the tarmac of the airport that now bears his name? Photographs of Ninoy's bloodied corpse said more than reams of text at a time when the press was controlled by Ferdinand Marcos. What is fit to print is a question that will be asked as long as we have newspapers and books.

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

Keeping fit

THEY say it comes with age—this waking up in the wee hours of the morning way, way before the sun comes up. I remember my younger years when my children had to literally shove me out of bed at 7 a.m. so they wouldn't be late for school (I doubled as their menial driver). At that hour, I would be deliciously ensconced still in the arms of Orpheus. But now at 4:30 a.m., or even earlier, even before the cocks crow, my eyes flip open and going back to sleep is next to impossible with so many images and thoughts coming unbidden. Since cocks are virtually non-existent in the city to wake one up, it's the drone of airplanes (I live near the airport) on early morning flights that insinuates itself into my consciousness. Before long, my senses are fully awake.

What to do when no one else is stirring, not even a cockroach? Read? Meditate? Reminisce? But then before you know it, your peace of mind is gone as worries and anxieties crowd out the pleasant imaginings. So instead of presiding over a battle between sad and happy thoughts, with the former usually winning, it is better to just bound out of bed.

So, what else to do? Read! But an annoyed groan from the hubby's side of the bed (the light disturbs him) squelches the idea. Why not go jogging, the idea strikes. But after a while it gets boring looking after the same scenery morning after morning. Then a totally unexpected comment made by my granddaughter triggered an idea. She, eyeing my bulging tummy, in all innocence asked, "When are you going to have the baby, Nanay?" Embarrassing to say the least, but it provided me with a brilliant alternative. With time on my hands, why not join an aerobics class and enjoy exercising in the company of other shape-challenged creatures? So off to a slimnastics class I decided to go. So now when the planes start droning, I quietly slip out of bed, don my aerobics outfit, put on my rubber shoes, grab my gym bag and slip out of the house even when the maids are not yet stirring.

Looking up at the sky, I see the dawn is just beginning and the sight of it is truly inspiring—soft pastel colors of pale pink, tinges of blue with touches of gold are seemingly finger-painted on the canvass of the sky by a still drowsy morning sun. I would imagine the sight would send the hidden artist in us to heights of ecstatic awe.

Outside the village grounds, I am greeted by the sights and sounds of early dawn. Idling buses are waiting for early passengers. I run smack into child labor in the raw by way of a young child peddling rags when he should still be in bed luxuriating in sleep that will make him grow. I see *taho* vendors catering to workers whose only breakfast would be a glass of this concoction; vendors of boiled eggs, bread and cheap food-stuff that would line their "masa" customers' stomachs for the rest of the day. I see a newspaper vendor on a bike precariously balancing a tall pile of newspapers in the front and back. How he can still manage to find his way, craning his neck above the pile, is beyond me.

At this hour, no traffic policeman is yet around, so it's every man for himself. A green or red light doesn't stand for anything and it's open invitation for near hits and misses. Still, traffic is heavenly. Traffic build-up has not yet started, pollution level is at a minimum, and by dint of luck and skillful dodging, I reach the aerobics place in one piece.

Let me let you in now on the goings-on inside a gym club. When you come early, you write your name on a clipboard where there is a diagram of the time slot and kind of machine you want to use. This may have been devised to ensure fairness, and to enforce the first-come-first-served basis. But Pinays will be Pinays and even here there's "palusot." Somebody who comes early signs up for her friends who'll be coming later. This has been the cause of disagreements—and leads not only to "tatalan" but at times escalates to "sabunotan."

The gym I go to is well-equipped. There are the usual stationary bikes for the warm-ups, the regulatory treadmills, the more strenuous transport machine and other contraptions designed to work out specific sets of muscles, to develop strength, or firm them up the thighs—both inner and outer, the hips, shoulders, arms, legs, waist, abdomen, the calves, the back, biceps and the deltoids (betcha, you don't know what that is) depending on what part of your body needs sculpting. You may avail of a personal trainer if you are willing to cough up his fee.

Some overdo the workouts and their painful grimaces would not exactly make a good advertisement for taking up gymnastics.

To complement these "instruments of torture," there are aerobic exercises held in a wide spacious hall not unlike a dancing hall. Numbers are printed on the floor to mark off one's place. Here in the most unlikely place, character and breeding become evident. While some stay in their designated places there are the inconsiderate and thoughtless ones who encroach on the space of others and elbow them out. One has to deftly dodge to avoid being hit. Most keep to their own area, however.

An instructor leads you through a routine of leaps, lunges, twirls and turns guaranteed to really rev up one's sweat glands. You go through this routine for an hour—it starts slowly, then gradually the tempo becomes faster and faster until the movements as well as the accompanying music become really frenzied. The catch is, you should not only know how to follow steps, you must come equipped with a sense of rhythm and timing if you want to move in unison with the group. It literally becomes a survival of the fittest. The weak ones fall by the wayside and crest-fallen, leave the area. The survivors are left sweating, panting and breathless.

Since a common problem is bulging abdomens, a special 15-minute workout is designed just for this and the strenuous bending, reaching and stretching are enough to make one who is not determined enough to just throw up her hand, give up and say—the heck with my figure! My resolve is stronger, I just grit my teeth and endure the torture to the breathless end.

A period of these exercises develops one's stamina and endurance and modesty aside, because I've been at it for some time now, from the corner of my eye I see young people half my age try to go through the whole routine because they're embarrassed not being able to keep up with an oldie like me.

Aerobics is an hour's routine broken only by an occasional water break. A swig from a bottle of mineral water, or Gatorade or the fountain refreshes you and fortifies you for another round. This hour of aerobic twisting and fuming may leave you huffing and puffing but these exertions are devised to burn excess calories and bring out a fitter you. And the later cooling-down phase of stretching is so relaxing the previous exertions seem to never have been.

A word about the trainers. Not like the oft-mentioned barbers with long hair or architects without houses or dentists with poor teeth, instructors are exactly what you'd expect them to be—light, lithe and lissome, brimming with vim, vigor and vitality.

The male instructors have glistening, rippling muscles. It would not be surprising if some susceptible female clients develop a crush on them. The clients come in all shapes and sizes; they display the latest in exercise wear—the skimpiest of tangas, the narrowest of thongs, the shortest of spandex shorts, and two-piece ensembles with the more bold exposing their navels. Men are not as vain—they wear ordinary T-shirts printed with exotic vacation places like Boracay, the company they work for like Heineken Beer, or the team they're playing like Abrogar No. 10, the school they go to, like La Salle, cartoon characters like Big Bird, etc.

And the footwear! The rubber shoes are in the four-figure category like Adidas, Nike, Fila, but Korea's Reebok beats 'em all.

The final and welcome phase of these exertions is the shower. A hot/cold splash on a sweaty body is a heavenly sensation. One can almost feel not only the grime and dirt, but toxic substances from within washed out of you. It leaves you feeling clean and refreshed, ready to face the world.

With this almost daily regimen, the good effects are becoming evident I feel good because of improved blood circulation they say, and the slow metabolism of middle age that leaves a flab here and there is counterbalanced and I feel my muscles grow firmer and stronger.

Truly, I feel bouncy and more alive! Now, waking up in the wee hours of the morning no longer makes me panicky because I look forward excitedly to another day of dynamic exercising. Why don't you try it, too?

Violeta Narvas-Santos is in her 60s and a grandmother to three cute grandchildren.

Corrupt and faulty logic, besides

DURING the last elections, many again chose celebrity status as primary basis in their selection of politicians to serve under the new regime. Hence, the politically inexperienced Noli de Castro, a veteran media man, topped the senatorial slate in votes garnered while the young and also inexperienced Francis Pangilinan (megastar Sharon Cuneta's husband), and Richard Gomez, a popular actor, posted good showings. Also elected but just as inexperienced in public governance were Panfilo Lacson and Loi Ejercito, while names like Wigberto Tañada, Winnie Monsod, Ernesto Herrera, Obet Pagdanganan, Perfecto Yasay and Liwayway Chato with good records in public service were at the bottom of the heap.

Apparently, the true meaning of the term "greater good of the people" still escapes us as a nation.

The fanaticism over celebrities that swept the celebrated former movie star, Joseph Estrada, to the presidency is still alive and a force to be reckoned with in future choices for public elective officials.

When a foreigner blamed our "damaged culture" for our country's woes, there were protests from all quarters. The result of the last elections also gave evidence of a continually regressing political history so that now, the standard for public service has reached rock bottom. Despite the total vigilance of mass media after the Marcos regime, graft and corruption was not abated up until the Estrada regime.

Fr. Larry Faraon, in his latest published views, was more concerned about the shame and ignominy Estrada actually brought on himself than he was about the serious setbacks suffered by 76 million

other Filipinos because of the ineptness and corruption of his regime. He also wants our spiritual and moral values to be highly personalized to fit Estrada's claim of total innocence even in his private life. The former president now in jail is being repackaged as a martyr to allow him to get more sympathy than the condemnation he deserves for his crimes.

To downplay the tremendous success of Lee Kuan Yew in creating a peaceful, clean, environmentally friendly and economically stable state for his people, our politicians often claim his country is small and easy to manage. But our bigger land area and greater natural resources should make us as progressive, if not more than, Singapore. The Singaporean government has also been criticized for being too harsh on offenders. We would rather that even those who



made our laws or must implement them, disobey them blatantly than be deemed curtailing personal freedom.

After a month's stay in Singapore, it doesn't make sense that our government which persists on being outrageously corrupt and has nothing to show for being in power, should now depend on remittances from overworked, underpaid, highly exploited, mostly poor overseas workers to prop it up. More than just a damaged culture, where is plain logic here?—MARY JOAN A. ANGELES, 6 Pinto St., Rancho Estate I, Marikina City

Real issues in race for speakership

THE RACE for the speakership of the 12th Congress has been muddled so that the real issues—vision, parliamentary expertise and leadership—have taken a backseat to the black propaganda branding the leading contender, Rep. Jose de Venecia Jr., as a "trapo."

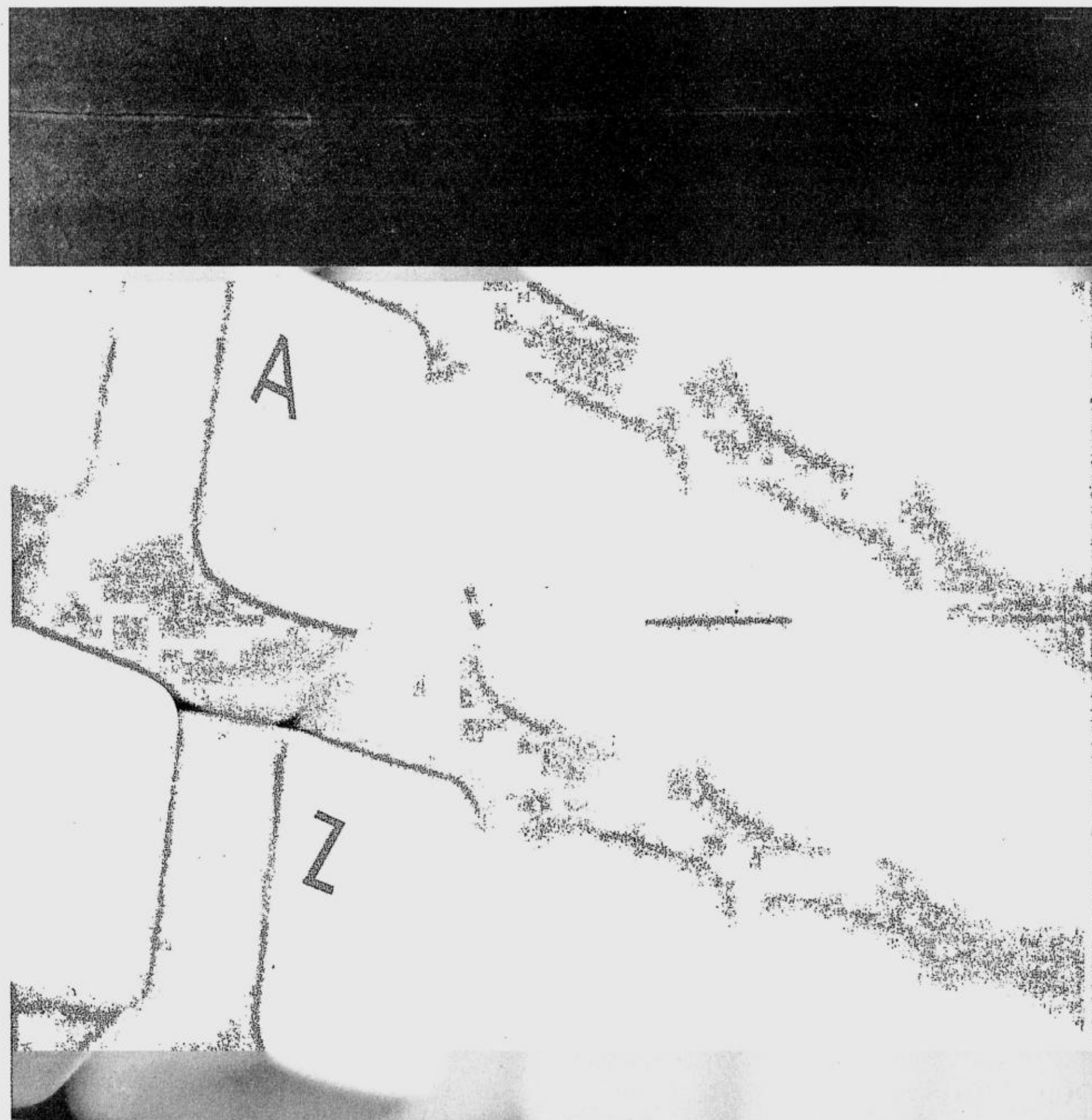
With all due respect to his rivals, Speaker De Venecia steered the 9th and 10th Congresses to legislate the Social Reform Agenda in support of President Fidel V. Ramos' goals of building the infrastructure of our economy toward the 21st century. He pursued anti-monopoly and socio-economic reforms, benefiting not only small and medium businesses but also the marginalized sectors of our society.

As a tireless legislator seeking peace for the nation, he initiated and brokered ceasefire agreements with the NDF-CPP-NPA and the RAM-YOU military rebels as well as a peace pact with the Muslim rebels that brought chair Nur

Misuari and the Moro National Liberation Front back into the fold of the law.

Today, De Venecia heads the Asian Christian and Muslim democrats as vice president of the Christian Democrat International (CDI), an umbrella organization of all Christian democratic political parties all over the world of which the Lakas NUCD-UMDP is an active member. He also chairs the Lakas NUCD-UMDP.

Therefore, I would say that as a seasoned politician, a brilliant parliamentarian and a man of vision, the 12th Congress, will be in the best hands under De Venecia. He alone can ably deliver the necessary legislation in support of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's pro-people and democratic program of government.—BOBBY BRILLANTE, secretary general, Kilusan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino, 175 Kalayaan Ave., West Rembo, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City



Retirees keeping watch over SSS, GSIS fund use

THE PHILIPPINE Association of Retired Persons (PARP), is a national organization of retired Social Security System and Government Service Insurance System members. Apart from working for the improvement of retirement benefits, it watches over the investment activities of the GSIS and SSS. During the Estrada administration, the PARP was the first to protest certain investments where the two systems lost several millions of their trust funds. Because of the complicity of fund administrators, the PARP was unable to stem the losses. In this connection, we did propose that a PARP representative be appointed to the boards of the GSIS and SSS.

We hail President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's order freezing the salaries of, among others, the officers of the GSIS and SSS at their present level and disallowing any increases. In 1999, we questioned the increase of P898.1 million in the salaries of SSS personnel but Carlos Arellano then (and Horacio Templo even now) ignored our inquiry, forcing us to bring the matter to the Ombudsman where it is still pending. Nevertheless we are aware of their atrociously high salaries. A cut in the salary, especially of Templo, is to be applauded.

We suggest that Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin also look into the income of these officers as directors of banks and other big companies where the SSS has investments, consisting of director's fees, per diems, allowances, bonuses and profit sharing, etc. running to millions of pesos, which are being appropriated as personal income of these directors, instead of as income of the institutions they represent. We know this for a fact in the SSS, but it may also be true with other government financial institutions as well. We also know that, in addition to all these, as executive officers, they still get many kinds of allowances which she may also want to look into.

Incidentally, we are offended and therefore protest the statement of columnist Jerry Barican saying that Boncodin "...is even more stupid than she looks." Coming from a former Palace official, this insult to Boncodin, who had the guts to question the inordinate salaries and perks of executives of government-owned and controlled corporations which no one in the government dared to do before, is also an affront to suffering Filipinos who, in the end, will benefit from her bold initiative.

We hope that under the Macapagal administration retirees will be appreciated for what they are—a vast national resource, a wealth of talent and experience who still want "to serve as we have served."—AMADO F. CABAERO, national president, Philippine Association of Retired Persons, 11 Brosas St., BF Resort Village, Las Piñas City

Maze of road projects

WHAT is it with politicians and their obsessive need to dig up and fix all major and traffic-prone roads? Do they honestly think that by digging in different places all at the same time they can get things done faster? Yet these projects always seem to take twice as long as the allotted time to get done.

And all this for what? To worsen the already bad traffic situation? To complicate the already confusing roads and intersections with detours? To further lengthen the already very long travel time? Or perhaps to cultivate hot-headed and undisciplined motorists?

I sincerely hope that these politicians will wake up and smell the pollution. We need solutions, and not more problems to add to what we already have. I think that if they truly care about their fellow citizens, instead of lining their pockets with money not intended for them, they would come up with better thought-out action plans to solve our seemingly never-ending traffic problems.—VANIA YSABEL S. PADILLA, Anti-polo City

Comprehensive, globally-recognized internet skills training and education.

When it comes to Internet skills training and education, IAsia Academy loads you with everything you need. From fundamental to advanced courses designed for e-business like mobile commerce, convergence, hardware platforms, operating systems, web design tools, programming languages, software applications and networking. More importantly, after finishing these courses, you are given a globally-recognized certificate that can easily land you a job here and abroad. We provide a unique career program for individuals pursuing internet careers and for companies to retain skilled internet talents.

Lobby Level, Tower II, The Enterprise Center, Paseo de Roxas cor. Ayala Ave., Makati City, Phils. • Tel. No.: 757-2222
http://Academy.IAsiaDigital.com

IASIA ACADEMY
Net Skills for the Net World

GENERATION

PROMETRIC

gtspartner

Java

ORACLE Academic Initiative

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Microsoft

Come to the
MITSUBISHI

ADVENTURE Weekend in Ayala Center!

Jam with us at the kick-off party and concert

at the Glorietta Activity Center on July 13, 6:00pm



Prize w/
Take it

FREEVERSE

Win!

**A 2002 Mitsubishi Adventure
Super Sport Gas M/T**

Earn a raffle coupon with every
single purchase of P500 at any
establishment at Glorietta or
Greenbelt Malls.

July 13-22, 2001

Raffle draw:
July 22, 6pm Glorietta Activity Center

PRODUCTION BY ALBERT, LARREA 2001



See the
New
Adventure

Check out the dressed-up Mitsubishi Adventure models
at the Glorietta Activity Center. July 14-22.

Free
Adventure
Ride &
Test Drive

Ride and drive the New Mitsubishi Adventure
around Ayala Center. 12-5 pm, July 14-15.

Adventure
Treasure
Hunt

Globe Handyphone Subscribers get a chance to Win a
3310 Cellphone, Palm M100, Sony Wega 21" TV, Sony
VCD, Microwave Oven and Ralliant Golf Umbrellas. July
14-15 with Raffle Draw on July 22.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-0376, Series of 2001.

Adventure
Movie
Surprise

Watch out for Mitsubishi representatives at the Glorietta
and Greenbelt Parking Areas and get free movie passes.
July 14-15.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-0375, Series of 2001.

Draw Your
Adventure

Kids 5-12 years old get a chance to Win a Gameboy,
Playstation, Mountain Bike or Ralliant Caps by Drawing
their Idea of what a Cool Adventure is. July 14-22.
Judged on July 22.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-0377, Series of 2001.

Avail of an Ayala Center
Discount Plus Card
from July 13-22 &
Get 5
Raffle Coupons



AYALA CENTER



Visit us at the Adventure Weekend Information Booth at the Glorietta Activity Center or
see posters and flyers for details.



The WORLD

Luverne B. Gueco, Editor

Book row could imperil Japan-S. Korea ties—Kim

SEOUL, South Korea—President Kim Dae-jung said yesterday he was "shocked" by Japan's refusal to revise its controversial history textbooks and warned that the issue could imperil ties between the two countries.

"I cannot but feel shocked," Kim said after being briefed on Japan's official rejection a day earlier of Seoul's demand for revision of the controversial textbooks that critics say whitewash Japan's wartime atrocities.

Kim's remarks were released to the press by his chief spokesperson, Park Joon-young.

Japan angered South Korea and other Asian countries in April by approving eight middle school textbooks, including one written by na-

tionalist scholars who deny Japan committed documented atrocities during World War II.

In June, South Korea asked Japan to revise 35 textbook passages that it believes gloss over atrocities committed during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula from 1910-1945.

South Korea was upset by the failure of those textbooks to mention tens of thousands of Korean and other Asian women who were forced to serve as sexual slaves for Japanese soldiers during World War II.

Japan responded Monday by informing Seoul that it can revise only two of the 35 disputed passages. Seoul officials say the two proposed revisions are of relatively lesser significance to them.

President Kim showed his anger by refusing to meet a high-level

Japanese delegation dispatched to seek Seoul's understanding of Tokyo's textbook decision.

"How can people who lack correct knowledge of their country's history promote friendship with people of other neighboring countries?" Kim said.

"We can't condone this situation. Our government will continue to demand revision of the history textbooks," he said.

The controversy was a setback for Kim, who visited Japan in 1998 and pledged to put the issue of the countries' thorny history to rest and build a future-oriented relationship.

"I am shocked at the thought that all efforts I have made so far to build a truly friendly relationship with Japan may have to go back to square one," Kim said. AP



A STUDENT looks at pictures showing Japanese security forces killing South Koreans during the 1910-1945 colonial era at an exhibition titled "Japan's Distorted History Textbook" at the National Assembly building in Seoul, July 10. AP

Levy's ma dares Condit: Take lie test

MODESTO, California—The mother of missing federal intern Chandra Levy said that US Rep. Gary Condit should take a lie detector test.

Standing at the door to her home on Monday, Susan Levy urged Condit "to come ahead and take the polygraph test and to help us find our daughter and bring her home, back to us alive and unharmed."

"I'm not accusing anybody of anything," she added, "but I think

there is truth out there and someone knows the truth."

Chandra Levy, 24, was last seen in Washington, D.C., on April 30. Over the weekend, a source speaking on condition of anonymity said that the 53-year-old Condit, in his third interview with police and the FBI, told investigators for the first time that he had a romantic relationship with Levy.

In Washington, Condit lawyer Abbe Lowell said the congressman

has cooperated with police and was willing to give them access to his apartment.

Lowell said Condit was ready to give investigators telephone and cell phone records and would make his staff available for questioning.

"The congressman will provide whatever additional information or material he can to police," Lowell said.

He said that if the police ask about a lie detector test he would discuss it with Condit, but he ex-

pressed doubt about the general usefulness of polygraphs.

The Levys' lawyer, Billy Martin, said at a Washington news conference that the missing woman's family had specific questions for Condit.

Martin said he wrote to Condit's lawyer asking about the congressman's relationship with Levy, including when he last saw her, how they met and the nature of the relationship. AP

Court says Pinochet unfit to stand trial

SANTIAGO, Chile—Chile's Augusto Pinochet—the archetypal Cold War military dictator—was declared mentally unfit on Monday to stand trial for death squad killings shortly after his 1973 coup, likely ending efforts to prosecute him.

The Appeals Court ruled that Pinochet, 85, suffers from such severe dementia that he cannot be prosecuted on charges of covering up 75 murders by the "Caravan of Death," an army unit that toured northern Chile by helicopter eliminating suspected leftists.

Police fired water cannon and tear gas at hundreds of people in central Santiago protesting against the court's decision, witnesses said.

Four protesters were arrested at the march in and around the Paseo Ahumada pedestrian thoroughfare late on Monday.

The court decision, taken by a 2-1 vote of a panel of judges, is technically a suspension of the charges against Pinochet and can

be appealed.

But few in Chile now believe Pinochet will ever appear in court because of the time-consuming appeals process, the ex-general's age and an unwillingness to reopen old wounds from his 1973-1990 rule.

"I think, unfortunately, that this is as far as the Pinochet case goes," prosecution lawyer Juan Bustos told reporters.

Legal experts say some 250 other human rights cases against Pinochet in Chile are now likely to crumble.

One of the former dictator's sons expressed relief. Pinochet is believed to have diabetes and aides say he has suffered at least two strokes in recent years.

"I hope with this ruling that our father can have a little more peace during what is left of his life," Marco Antonio Pinochet told Chilean radio.

Despite the protest, interest in having Pinochet put on trial has dwindled in Chile as the legal wrangles have drawn out. Reuters

Haze forces Thais to remain indoors

BANGKOK—Residents in five Thai provinces bordering Malaysia were warned yesterday to stay indoors or wear face masks, as a choking haze caused by Indonesian forest fires hung over the country's south.

The Environmental Health Center in Songkhla province said the warning was particularly aimed at people who were already suffering from conditions like asthma.

"The situation is not yet at a dangerous stage, but we have advised people not to directly inhale the haze and to stay indoors, or if they must go outdoors, to wear masks," said the center's director Ongart Chanacharnmongkol.

Ongart said the haze from Indonesia's Sumatra island had covered Thailand's five southernmost provinces—Satun, Songkhla, Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat—since Saturday.

The situation was not yet as bad as 1997-98, when smog from slash-and-burn farming blanketed much of the region, but motorists were already being forced to keep their lights on for an extra hour in the morning, he said.

"So far the level of dust is moderate, it has not yet reached a critical level, but we have to wait and see."

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has expressed concern over the pollution problem and ordered the interior ministry to map out a plan to alleviate the situation, deputy government spokesperson Kuthep Saikrachang said.

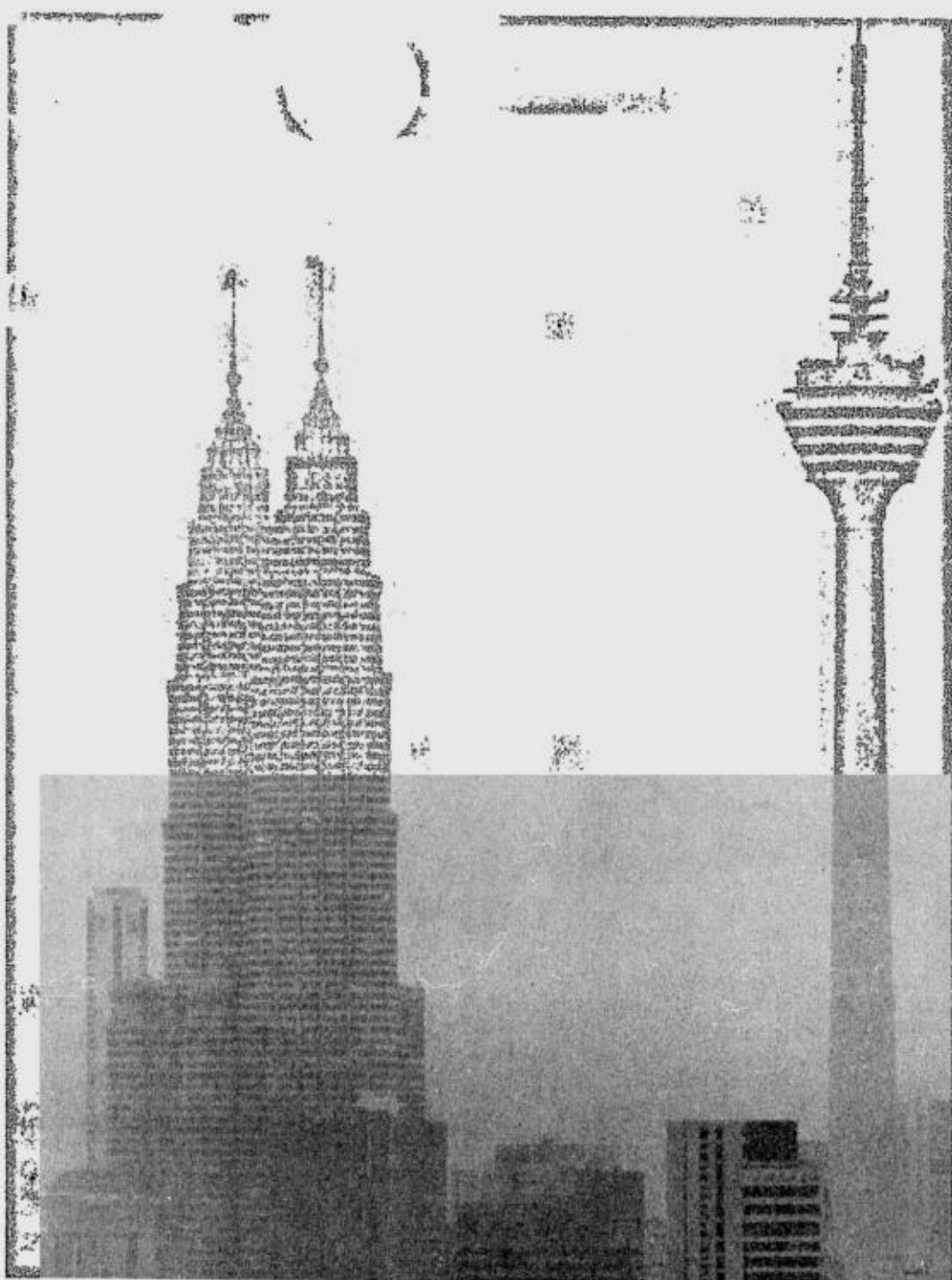
During the weekly Cabinet meeting Thaksin suggested "rain seeding" techniques could be deployed to help clear away the dust.

"In case there is no rain in affected provinces the prime minister has ordered the interior ministry to make artificial rain in these provinces to lessen damage and suffering," Kuthep said.

The Public Health Ministry is also planning to hand out 20,000 face masks through provincial offices for residents who need to work or do errands outdoors.

The pollution crisis has reportedly forced many fishermen to stay in port in Satun province, where visibility is down to less than 100 meters on land, and under one kilometer at sea.

The haze crisis that enveloped Southeast Asia in 1997 and 1998 caused an estimated \$9.3 billion in economic losses. Many of the fires were deliberately set by planters clearing land for cultivation. AFP



KUALA Lumpur's skyscrapers, including the world's tallest, Petronas Twin Towers, left, and KL Tower, right, are shrouded by haze at sunrise July 10. Smoke from wildfires on Sumatra is covering the skies over western Malaysia. AP

US warns UN it will fight for arms makers

UNITED NATIONS—The United States on Monday warned a UN meeting on small arms trafficking it was prepared to do battle to defend the rights of arms makers and legal gun owners—even when the guns they want to own were specifically designed for war.

John Bolton, US undersecretary of state for arms control, fired off the warning shot on the opening day of a conference aimed at clamping down on the billion-dollar-a-year global small arms trade, which UN officials blame for half a million deaths a year and enormous human suffering.

"People all over the world are looking to this conference for meaningful steps toward enhancing human security and preventing further suffering and destruction of life," Harri Holkeri of Finland, president of the 189-nation UN General Assembly, said as the meeting opened.

But Bolton said the United States could not accept numerous provisions of a draft action plan due to be adopted on July 20, the conference's final day. In doing so,

he drove a wedge between Washington and its European Union allies and lined up with Russia, China and India, analysts said.

"The United States is going to isolate itself from its closest allies," said Loretta Bondi of the Washington-based Fund for Peace. Brazilian delegate Rubem Cesar Fernandes said, "It sounded like they wanted the conference to collapse."

Bolton said the draft plan was studded with "ambiguity and overbreadth." Washington wanted it to target only illegal trading of military-style weapons and do nothing to "constrain legal trade and legal manufacturing."

Anti-gun activists, on the other hand, want to crack down on both legal and illegal arms deals, arguing that the vast majority of illegal weapons started out as legal.

According to UN definition, the small arms category includes such powerful arms as grenades, mortars, assault rifles, machine guns and shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles as well as handguns. Reuters

Separated Kashmiris hope for peace between India, Pakistan

BY AMIR ZIA

NEELUM VALLEY, Pakistan—A stout, bearded man on Pakistan's side of the disputed Kashmir border with India peers into the distance, then begins to wave wildly with his hands.

From a small village across the Neelum River that meanders along the border, a friend clad in white baggy pants waves back.

For more than 50 years, since Pakistan was carved out of India after British rule ended in 1947, the people of Kashmir have been divided by

the dispute between the two countries over this lush Himalayan region that each claims as its own.

"They are that close to us, but we can't meet them," said Malik Saeed, a guard of an abandoned tourist resort that shows signs of the frequent artillery duels between the two countries.

"It has been more than 50 years now that our families are divided," said Saeed. "A whole generation has spent a lifetime waiting to unite with their relatives across the border."

Uncertainty and fears of renewed

fighting loom large among Kashmiris who have lived in the shadow of the conflict all their lives, even as Pakistan and India prepare for their first summit in two years later this month.

Kashmir is the only Muslim-majority state in Hindu-dominated India. Pakistan demands a referendum in line with UN resolutions to determine whether Kashmiris want unification with India or Pakistan. Indian officials reject the proposal and say Kashmir is an integral part of India.

Islamic militants have been wag-

ing a bloody secessionist war in Indian Kashmir since 1989, fighting for unification with Pakistan or complete independence. India accuses Pakistan of sponsoring the rebels, but Pakistan denies the charge and says it is unable to stop indigenous Kashmiris from crossing the border.

Until seven months ago, the thickly forested Neelum Valley was the center of fierce artillery duels between Pakistani and Indian soldiers. Scores of buildings in the valley on Pakistan's side of the border were turned into heaps of rubble.

Many villagers fled, but others resigned themselves to the fighting, cowering in underground bunkers or damaged homes.

"You have come here in good times, because there is a truce between Pakistan and India," Saeed tells a visiting journalist.

Kashmir has been the centerpiece of one of the world's most protracted and bloody border disputes. In many parts of the valley, the Neelum River is the only demarcation between these two rival nuclear-power nations.

Since the two countries an-

nounced a cease-fire in November last year, some villagers have started to trickle back to their broken homes.

A key road connecting the valley with Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistani Kashmir, recently reopened to traffic for the first time in 10 years, after Indian soldiers stopped targeting vehicles from their mountain positions. Still few homes are being rebuilt because of fears of more fighting.

Saeed, the guard at the closed tourist resort, pleaded for the Kashmiris to be reunited. AP

A TRIBUTE TO THE PRESIDENT WHO SAW US THROUGH A CRUCIAL CROSSROAD OF HISTORY.



Manuel Acuña Roxas

was not only the last president of the Philippine Commonwealth and the first president of the Philippine Republic that was recognized on July 4, 1946, he was also the one faced with the daunting task of rebuilding a country devastated by war.

Although he was recalled by his Maker after only two years into his presidency, President Roxas ably laid the groundwork for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Philippines after World War II. He established the central monetary system, approved the first Master Economic Plan for the country and signed the blueprint for the reconstruction of the City of Manila.

Manuel A. Roxas lived for only 56 years, but his was a life well-spent, with many outstanding achievements - valedictorian of the UP College of Law, first Philippine Bar topnotcher with a grade of 92%, Capiz governor at age 27 and Speaker of Congress at 31.

Two events best illustrated the kind of man Roxas was: After laboring with Osmeña for the passage of the Hare-Hawes Cutting Act in the U.S. Congress, Roxas supported the alternative Tydings-McDuffie Act pushed by Quezon, all for the sake of Philippine independence.

During the Japanese occupation, Roxas was imprisoned and tortured by the dreaded *Kempetai*, yet he refused to be part of the puppet government.

Fifty-five years have passed since the July 4th ascendancy of Manuel A. Roxas, yet his legacy of statesmanship and excellent service lives on.

As a tribute to the life of President Manuel A. Roxas, CAP has erected a nine-foot bronze statue in his honor in front of the CAP building in Roxas City.

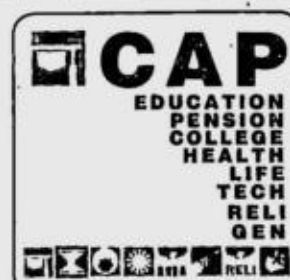


COLLEGE ASSURANCE PLAN • CAP PENSION CORPORATION

CAP Education and CAP Pension combined trust fund over P12B. Total tuition fees paid P5.4B • Number of fully used plans 38,814 • Number of scholars in college 71,862 • Total pension benefits paid P627M

For more information on CAP Education, call up : 817-6586 • 759-2000 • North and Manila: 867-3876 • 894-4474 • 894-4475
South and Manila: 892-6580 • 893-6594 • 817-8002 • 894-4473 • Cebu (032) 253-7037 • (032) 253-8104 Davao (082) 226-4063 or visit the CAP website at <http://www.cap.com.ph>

For more information on CAP Pension, call up: Makati Head Office (02) 8109349 • (02) 8109275 North and Manila: San Fernando La Union (072) 8885604 • Tuguegarao (078) 8440655 • Angeles City (045) 8885952
• San Fernando Pampanga (045) 8601517 South and Manila: Lucena (042) 3735952 • Batangas (043) 7231428 Visayas: Cebu (032) 2537613 Tacloban (053) 3214518 • Iloilo (033) 3380697
Mindanao: Zamboanga (062) 9913523 CDO (088) 8572690 Davao (082) 2273341 General Santos (083) 5522619



FIRST • LARGEST

Basic Advertising



The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved this advertisement or determined if this is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary constitutes a violation of the Revised Securities Act and is criminally punishable. The public is encouraged to report immediately to the Securities and Exchange Commission any misrepresentation or false or inaccurate statement.

Across the **NATION**

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

Cagayan under calamity state**ROUNDUP****'Feria' devastation continues**By **CRISTINA ARZADON**
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—Typhoon "Feria" did not chalk up as much damage in agriculture and infrastructure in Ilocos Norte as typhoon "Iliang's" devastation in 1998.

But officials here noted that Feria's impact on the lives of residents would linger for a long time.

The three days of continuous rains and gusty winds beginning the first Tuesday of July were perhaps the longest days by far to most residents since Iliang hit the province.

Feria had already left the country, but the devastation continues. Ilocos Norte has been isolated after a major bridge connecting the province to the southern section collapsed.

Feria began to batter the province Tuesday night, dumping heavy rains that instantly flooded major streets here.

The next two days, intensified winds and unrelenting rains caused work stoppage and suspension of classes as floodwater overflowing from drainage systems crept inside houses. Rampaging waters swamped several bridges, rendering them impassable to all types of vehicles.

The bridge in Badoc town, which connects the province's southern section to this capital city, collapsed and prevented passenger buses from entering and leaving the city.

Motorists from Metro Manila avoided the Ilocos route and detoured to Cagayan but it took them 15 hours to reach the province.

Rubber boat

Hundreds of passengers from Manila on Tuesday were stranded in Badoc because only a rubber boat can get across the river and ferry people to the other side of the bridge.

Power was restored only late Friday in some parts of the city but it was

still lights out in at least 20 of the 22 Ilocos Norte towns since Tuesday.

Residents have been queuing at pump wells in the neighborhood and scarce bottled water services for their drinking and household needs because water supply was cut off by the typhoon.

Long distance telephone services were unavailable until Friday because landline phones, including cellular phones, went dead.

"That's the state we're in right now. There's no way to feed information to Metro Manila," said Lito Gorospe, the provincial capitol's press consultant, on Friday.

Damages

The Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council, in its partial assessment, said Ilocos Norte lost P24.3 million in damaged infrastructure, crops, fisheries and livestock.

Vice Gov. Wendell Chua, the acting governor in the absence of Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., said the initial figures were enough for the provincial board to declare Ilocos Norte under a state of calamity.

Chua said the provincial government would be using its P15-million calamity fund to rehabilitate the province.

A portion of the fund is being eyed to assist victims whose houses were either damaged or destroyed.

Recipients could get up to P10,000 to repair their houses whose rooftops were either blown away or destroyed by falling trees, Chua said.

"Certainly, we hope the national government can assist the provincial counterpart in bringing relief to our province mates," he said.

The initial figures, however, do not reflect the state of disaster wrought by Feria among the residents' lives and properties.

Victims

As of July 5, the PDCC has recorded 3,571 families in 137 villages who

sought government assistance for various typhoon-related incidents.

This was apart from the 1,858 families affected after their villages were flooded for days.

The victims came from 17 of the 22 towns in the province.

Before Feria, typhoon Iliang slammed the province in 1998 and exacted the heaviest toll on agriculture and infrastructure with losses reaching P164.3 million.

Chua shared residents' observation that Feria is the worst calamity that hit Ilocos Norte by far.

"Hundreds of families in a coastal village in Pasuquin sought permanent relocation when they were hit by tidal waves at the height of the typhoon," Chua said.

Displaced families have sought temporary shelter in houses offered by virtual strangers. Those who found no immediate home pitched tents along the town's national highway.

Floodwater crept inside houses destroying investments from furniture, house appliances and even stored grocery items.

Disaster and relief teams could not be dispatched immediately to affected areas because communication lines broke down while major roads were either flooded or inaccessible because of fallen trees.

Thick mud

In the center of the city, customers drop in trickles in a drugstore, the only open establishment in an array of businesses lining the deserted streets on Thursday.

In nearby San Nicolas town, furniture and grocery stores opened up their iron enclosures but only to rid their establishments of thick mud that littered their floors and smudged their wares.

On the roadside, too, were strewn beds, chairs, sofas and rugs being scraped of dirt.

"I have spent most of my life here. But I never saw an ocean of floodwater in the streets and in our homes," said a schoolteacher, adding that floodwater rose up to their necks at the height of Feria's rains.

TUGUEGARAO CITY—Almost a week after typhoon "Feria's" destructive rains and winds, the provincial government of Cagayan on Monday declared the province under a state of calamity.

Gov. Edgar Lara expressed hope the move would hasten the release of both national and local funds to help typhoon victims in the province.

The Cagayan disaster coordinating council said Feria affected 39,319 families and left six people dead in the province.

Damage to agriculture was placed at P129.46 million and to infrastructure at P46.48 million.

As an austerity measure, Lara said the provincial board froze the purchase of vehicles for provincial officials.

Vice Gov. Oscar Pagulayan said he would ask President Macapagal-Arroyo and Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes to release the P10 million earlier allotted by Malacañang for the rehabilitation of Cagayan due to previous typhoons.

The release of the funds was overtaken by events that led to Edsa 2, Pagulayan said.

Provincial officials said they would also seek financial aid from the President after Feria severely hit the province.

Ilocos Sur

In Ilocos Sur, latest reports gathered by the INQUIRER showed that at least 29 people were killed from Feria's onslaught last week.

The fatalities included a family of six who were buried by a landslide in Supgun town, an upland town at the southeastern part of the province.

Half of the Supgun municipal hall was also buried by landslides, reports said.

The floods displaced more than 37,000 families in the province, reports said.

In Mt. Province, a young tourist from Bulacan and a guide drowned in an underground river that navigates through the famous Sagada Caves at the height of Feria.

The tourist, Jonathan Bumolto, who authorities said was from Bulacan, and his friend Nomer Wansing of Palawan, went to the caves on July 4, the height of Feria's fury, with a tourist guide, Sagada resident Josephine Omameng, in tow.

Reports from the Philippine Information Agency in Mt. Province said a strong underground current swept the three. Wansing managed to crawl to safety.

The bodies of Bumolto and Omameng were recovered recently, according to PIA officer Art Tibaldo, who has arrived from Sagada early Tuesday.

"But I do not know if they managed to ship (Bumolto's remains) home. It takes 12 hours to get out of there now because of road cuts," Tibaldo said.

He said communications there had been down since the typhoon. Access to the province, through the Halsema Highway, had been cut, and travelers now use the Ifugao route.

Feria left six fatalities in Mt. Province.

The PIA also documented the fate of Edmundo Pidlao Jr., a marine engineering student of Dagupan City, who was dragged by the strong Chico River as he tried to rescue three people stranded on a mound of debris in the middle of the river.

Tibaldo said Pidlao volunteered to wade toward the three, held fast to the riverbanks by an abaca rope. The rope snapped as Pidlao inched closer toward the debris, causing him to be pulled by the current.

Puerto Princesa

In Puerto Princesa City, government officials declared the whole city under a state of calamity after 10 barangays were hit by Feria.

Members of the City council, in a special session on July 7, passed a resolution putting the whole city under a state of calamity. This is the first resolution passed by the new council after its inauguration.

About 215 families were displaced by Feria, which uprooted trees and wrecked houses mostly along the shorelines, with a still undetermined amount of structures and crops destroyed as of Saturday morning.

Unofficial reports, however, placed the number of families displaced at 313, mostly children.

Fifty families were reported to be staying in barangay halls while others chose to stay with relatives on safe grounds.

Lawyer Allen Rodriguez, Assistant City Administrator and head of the City Disaster Coordinating Council, asked for the release of P2 million as calamity fund for the families. He said relief operations were immediately conducted but available goods could last only a few days.

In other parts of Palawan, Feria uprooted trees that barricaded major thoroughfares.

Visayas

In Negros Occidental, about P2.1 million worth of crops were damaged and more than 3,200 persons displaced when Feria unleashed its wrath in the province's seven towns and two cities on July 4.

A report submitted by the Provincial Welfare and Development Office showed that strong winds destroyed 103 houses and damaged 478 others in the cities of Talisay and Cadiz and in the towns of Valladolid, Pontevedra, Pulupandan and San Enrique.

Worst hit was Valladolid where 1,800 persons were displaced after the winds destroyed 50 houses and damaged 250 others.

In Pulupandan, 1,350 persons were affected when 34 houses were destroyed and 209 others were damaged at the height of Feria.

The PWDO report also showed that 15 houses were destroyed and 15 others were damaged in San Enrique, displacing 117 persons.

Four houses were destroyed and another four were damaged in Talisay and in Cadiz, affecting 30 persons. Twelve persons were displaced after Feria destroyed two houses in Pontevedra.

Provincial agriculturist Igmedio Tabianan reported that Feria damaged P2.1 million worth of crops in Hinigaran, Ilog and Don Salvador Benedicto.

About P580,500 of worth of corn plants were destroyed in Don Salvador Benedicto and Hinigaran towns.

Feria also destroyed P1,185,850 worth of banana plants in Don Salvador Benedicto and towns Ilog and P364,800, in Hinigaran town. Reports from Estandis Caldez, Villamor Visaya Jr., Leoncio Balbin Jr. and Vincent Cabrera, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, Ruelle Albert D. Castro, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau and Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

Pagasa taps radar

BAGUIO CITY—The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) here has started using the radar that was installed last year on Mt. Sto. Tomas. The Duffler Weather Surveillance Radar 985 was installed to improve typhoon tracking and weather surveillance in the region, said Joseph Rios, chief meteorologist of Pagasa in Baguio. *Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Drug dealer falls

BOCAUE, Bulacan—A suspected drug dealer was arrested after a 30-minute car chase along the North Luzon Expressway here Friday. Police said patrol officers of Philippine National Construction Corp. chased Kosair Makalintal of Quiapo, Manila, after observing that he was driving recklessly along the tollway. During the chase, Makalintal was injured after his car bumped another car. Makalintal was taken to a hospital in Meycauayan town and was placed under police custody when policemen and PNCC personnel found four kilos of shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) in his car. *Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Cop gets life term

TAGBILARAN CITY—A policeman was meted a maximum prison term of two years for accidentally killing his friend in 1999. PO1 Wenceslao Purisima was found guilty of homicide by Judge Baudilio Dodos of the Regional Trial Court Branch 2. Purisima was also ordered to indemnify the heirs of Glenn Lungay with P165,000 in funeral and medical expenses and cost of litigation. The policeman was showing his firearm to Lungay on Feb. 9, 1999 when it accidentally went off, hitting the victim in the head. *Chito A. Fuentes, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Suspension assailed

DUMAGUETE CITY—The legal counsel of four government doctors and a supply officer of the Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital (NOPH) described as "compartmentalized justice" a decision of the Office of the Ombudsman to suspend them for six months. Lawyer Saletto Eramas said he saw no reason why five of his clients were suspended while the four others were cleared. Eramas had asked the Ombudsman to reconsider its decision because the doctors' suspension would jeopardize the hospital's medical services. He added that he was ready to bring the case to the Supreme Court if the Ombudsman denies his motion. *Alex V. Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Quake spares bridges














CALAPAN CITY—The Department of Public Works and Highways has dispatched its structural engineers to evaluate the condition of major bridges in Oriental Mindoro after an earthquake hit the province early Monday. "We want to ensure that our bridges are safe," said Efren G. Padilla, Oriental Mindoro assistant district engineer. Padilla said that as of Monday noon, their engineers had reported no damage to bridges in Calapan and Baco towns. An earthquake on Nov. 15, 1994 destroyed more than 20 bridges here. *Joel J. Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Outstanding Quezonian

The Quezon provincial government has launched its annual search for citizen achievers who approximated the life example of the late President Manuel L. Quezon. At stake are the Gintong Medalya ng Karangalan and the Medalya ng Karangalan. Gov. Wilfredo L. Enverga announced that the outstanding Quezonians would be recognized during the Quezon Day celebrations in Lucena on Aug. 19. Since 1970 when the awards project was started, only five nominees were given the Gintong Medalya ng Karangalan. They were Fr. Horacio de la Costa, Gen. Guillermo Nakar, Senators Claro M. Recto and Lorenzo Tañada, and Ricardo Cardinal Vidal.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon will experience stormy weather and the coastal waters will be rough to very rough. The rest of Northern Luzon will have rains with gusty winds and the coastal waters will be rough. The rest of Luzon and Western Visayas will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms. *SOURCE: PAGASA*

 Metro Manila HI 31° Lo 24°	 Baguio HI 24° Lo 16°	 Tuguegarao HI 29° Lo 23°	 Laoag HI 29° Lo 24°
 Clark Zone HI 31° Lo 23°	 Tagaytay HI 30° Lo 20°	 Legazpi HI 32° Lo 24°	 Calapan HI 31° Lo 24°
 Bacolod HI 32° Lo 25°	 Roxas HI 32° Lo 24°	 Cebu HI 31° Lo 24°	 Tacloban HI 32° Lo 24°
 Gen. Santos HI 32° Lo 23°	 Zamboanga HI 33° Lo 24°	 Cagayan de Oro HI 32° Lo 22°	 Davao HI 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyssa, PDI Research/07/11/01

PDI BUREAUS

Northern Luzon Bureau
Central Luzon Desk
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop,
Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail:
inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St., Old Albay
District, Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail:
inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St.,
Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346 /
233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail:
pdavis@skynet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

BAGUIO BOHOL BORACAY BUSUANGA

**FLY TO PLACES
THAT WILL MAKE
YOU SMILE.**

Fly to the destination of your dreams with Asian Spirit. We offer regular flights to some of the country's most idyllic holiday destinations—Baguio, Bohol, Busuanga and Boracay (via Caticlan). So if you fancy a holiday that will let you take home nothing but smiles, call 851-8888 or visit www.asianspirit.com.

BAGUIO (074) 304-2813 • BORACAY (036) 288-3465 • BUSUANGA
CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 856-5435 • CALBAYOG (055) 209-1189 • CATARMAN
(055) 354-1378 • CEBU (032) 341-2555 • MANILA (02) 851-8888 • MARINDUQUE
(042) 332-1121 • MASBATE (056) 333-3937 • NAGA (054) 472-2639
SAN JOSE (043) 491-4151 • TAGBILARAN (038) 411-5701 • VIRAC (052) 811-1056



Asian Spirit
THE PEOPLE'S AIRLINE

Soldiers arrest 9 MILF rebs

COTABATO CITY—Soldiers rounded up nine suspected Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels and seized from them 17 high-powered firearms in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, during a raid on Sunday.

Army Col. Antonio Romero, 603rd Infantry Brigade chief, said "persistent reports" from residents, indicating the presence of assorted firearms from civilians, prompted the military to raid a house reportedly owned by a certain Nasser Ali, alias "Commander Nasser" of the MILF.

The house at Barangay Gang in Sultan Kudarat town, about 200 meters from the highway, is near the house of MILF legal counsel and peace panel member Lanang Ali, he said.

According to Romero, the raiders, led by Lt. Col. Danilo Garcia of the 3rd Infantry Battalion, seized Armalite rifles, M-79 grenade launchers and RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) launchers.

Nasser and eight of his men, who were then attending a wedding, were arrested.

But the MILF leadership demanded the release of the group and the return of the firearms, claiming they were escorts of Lanang.

Ghadzali Jaafar, MILF vice chair for political affairs, said the raid violated the ceasefire agreement between the rebel group and the government.

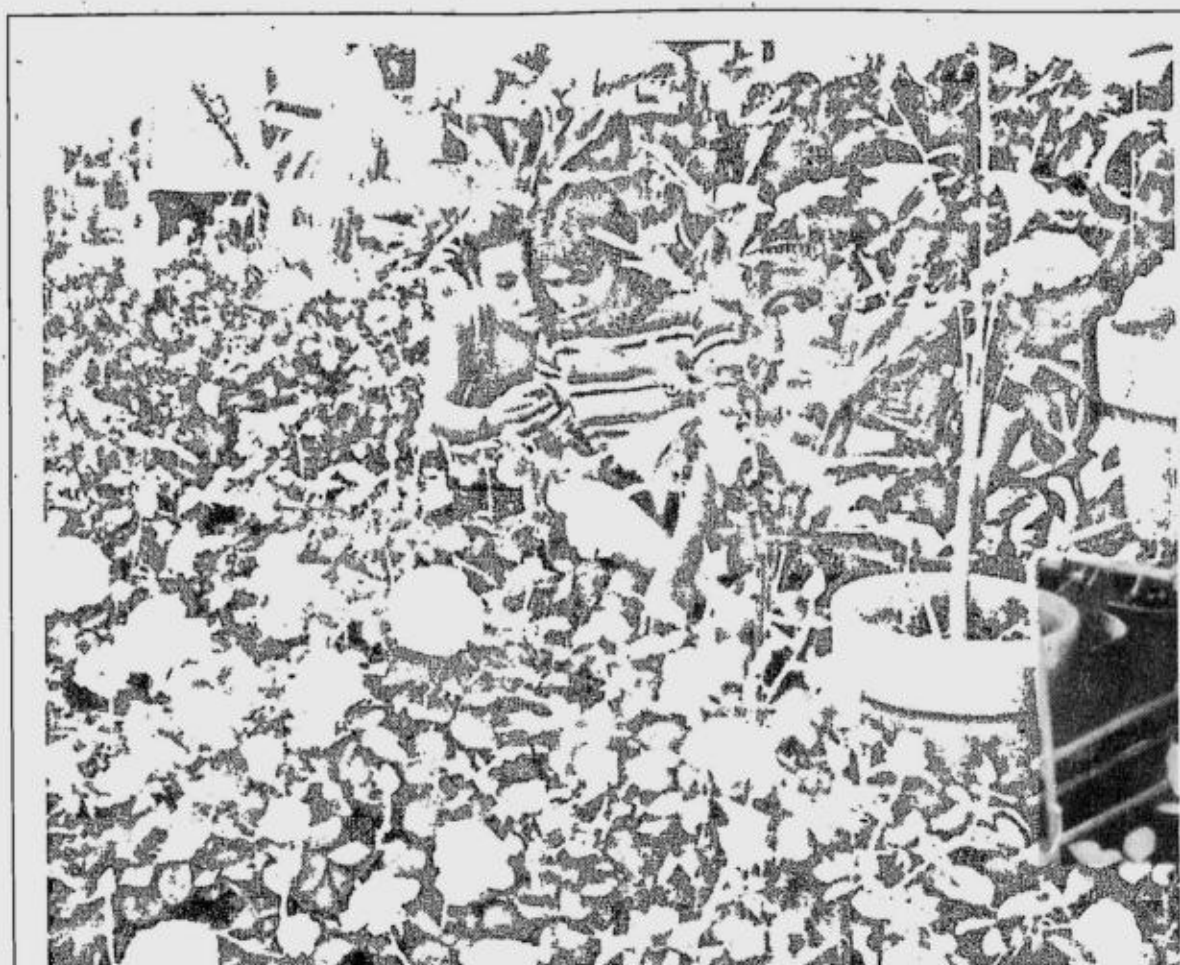
The incident, he said, "was not only unfortunate and uncalled for but also an affront to the sincerity" of the Macapagal administration in the ongoing peace negotiation.

He said the confiscated firearms belonged to MILF members securing Lanang.

"We were enforcing the government's campaign against loose firearms when we ordered for the conduct of the raid. We only learned later that the gun wielders were MILF members," Romero said.

Jaafar urged the government "to exercise political maturity" in resolving the controversial raid "before the trust and confidence of the people on President Macapagal-Arroyo's all-out peace policy is put to waste. **Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

Muslim youths back oust-Misuari bid



MESSAGE SENT

MELVIN GASCON

The two young girls seem to be more interested in sending text messages through a mobile cellular phone than minding a flower shop in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. The high-tech craze has made the country the texting capital of the world, according to experts.

COTABATO CITY—The ouster of Nur Misuari as head of the Moro National Liberation Front appeared to have snowballed when a youth group on Monday called for his resignation as Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao governor due to alleged dismal performance.

"Governor Misuari should step down from office because of mismanagement and abuse of authority," Aishia Prudencio, spokesperson of the United Youth of the Philippines and the National Youth Alliance of the Philippines, said.

The 15-man executive council, which ousted Misuari as chair of the MNLF, met here Monday to discuss several issues, including the reunification of all Moro revolutionary forces.

Prudencio said the Mindanao-wide public consultations, which were attended by Muslims, Christians and highlanders, indicated that many of them want a change in the ARMM leadership.

The youth group has sought the help of President Macapagal-Arroyo and Congress to put an end to Misuari's rule over the four-province ARMM.

The move came following reports that the Aug. 15 ARMM election would be postponed, forcing the Senate to extend Misuari's term as regional governor in a "hold-over capacity."

Prudencio said Misuari's tenure had been extended several times since he was elected in 1996 due to postponements of the ARMM election.

While the governor is at the helm, Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi have remained socioeconomically stagnant, she said.

She noted that Misuari frequently traveled to Manila and abroad and seemed unmindful of the poverty gripping his constituents.

"All we see are extravagant meetings (and) luxurious travels at the expense of the taxpayers' money," Prudencio said.

Delayed payment of salaries and unnecessary deduction of 10 percent from each regional department's maintenance and operating expenses allocation that go to a "common fund" are among the complaints of the ARMM's rank and file.

However, Majendra Madjilon, regional information chief, doubted the youth sector's anti-Misuari stand.

"They could be used by a group lobbying for the governor's ouster in the MNLF hierarchy," said Madjilon,

who claimed that other youths support Misuari's leadership, not only in the MNLF but also in the ARMM.

Madjilon maintained that to many Moros and the MNLF, Misuari remains their leader.

But while Misuari claims leadership of the erstwhile rebel front, the Executive Council of 15, which ousted him as chair said it was working for the reunification of the MNLF and the MILF.

The MILF, the biggest Moro rebel movement in Mindanao, is currently holding peace talks with the Philippine government.

"Unity talks had been started in Kuala Lumpur between the MNLF, MILF and the Islamic Command Council (ICC)," Sema told ranking MNLF officials and supporters during the MNLF Bangsamoro Congress at the Cotabato City State Polytechnic College grounds.

Sema said representatives from the MNLF, MILF and the ICC were expected to sign a declaration of unity.

Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson, said his group had been invited to join the reunification efforts but since it was talking peace with the government, the matter would be discussed in the GRP-MILF talks in Malaysia later this month.

Malacañang had been proposing a "shared autonomy" between the government and the MILF, a move that local political analysts believed would necessitate reunification of the MNLF and the MILF.

Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Jesus Dureza, who chairs the government panel talking with the MILF, said the "shared autonomy scheme" was among the vital issues to be discussed in future negotiations.

In the 1970s and early '80s, MNLF leaders bolted out of the organization and formed the MILF to push the bid for independence of the Bangsamoro (Moro nation).

"One reason why some leaders broke away from the MNLF in the past two years was the dictatorship, mismanagement and intransigence of MNLF leadership under then Chairman Nur Misuari," Sema told MNLF supporters who responded with applause.

About 50,000 supporters of the council gathered here Monday.

Salem Adem of the OIC ministerial committee of the eight and Tengku Jaafar Haron of Malaysia also attended the meeting of the executive council. **Charlie C. Señase and Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

Suspected rebel killed in clash

By **DELFIN T. MALLARI JR.**
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—A suspected rebel was killed in an early morning encounter between government troops and a New People's Army group on the slopes of Mt. Banahaw near the boundary of Quezon and Laguna on Tuesday.

Two young girls were wounded when they were caught in the crossfire.

Supt. Alberto Mercado, acting police provincial director, said members of the 417th provincial mobile police group and the Lucban police chanced upon the NPA group at about 2 a.m. in Barangay Igang, Lucban, Quezon.

Mercado said that after a 20-minute exchange of gunfire, the

guerrillas retreated in different directions, leaving behind the body of their comrade, identified as Javier Arellano, alias Ka Mando.

Police said several villagers revealed that the rebels carried with them several wounded companions as they fled.

Wounded in the crossfire were Rochele Arellano, 8, who suffered a bullet wound near the buttock, and her elder sister Jocelyn, 13, who was hit in the right thigh.

They were brought to the Quezon Memorial Hospital here.

"The rebels could have shot and wounded the civilians because they were shooting our men from inside the house," Mercado said.

Mercado said the policemen found a .45 cal. pistol, several M-14 magazines,

and NPA documents inside the house.

The wounded victims told the INQUIRER that the fatality was their father.

Marilou, the eldest sister of the victims, also denied that their father was an NPA member.

"He was just taking care of the fighting cocks owned by the mayor of Bay, Laguna. He was never an NPA," she said.

But she said that there were really NPA rebels inside their house during the encounter.

"More than 20 NPA rebels arrived in our house, including four women, the night before. They asked my father if they could spend the night with us. My father allowed them in because he was afraid that we might be harmed if he refused," Marilou said.

Quevedo reelected president of CBCP

COTABATO CITY—Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo was reelected for a two-year term as president of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

Quevedo, whose first term as CBCP president ends on Nov. 30, got 61 votes from the 70 voting members.

"I am both happy and sad," Quevedo said of his reelection, because "my time will be divided again between serving the Archdiocese of Cotabato and the whole Church in (the) Philippines."

He said he would pursue new pastoral thrusts and implement in a more systematic manner the nine pastoral priorities drawn up during the National Pastoral Consultation and Church Renewal in January.

Quevedo, who belongs to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, said the pastoral priorities focused on the promotion and defense of the family.

"Family is the most important among the pastoral thrusts of the Church in the Philippines," Quevedo told the Church-run Notre Dame Broadcasting Corp. in Cotabato City.

The other pastoral thrusts include the building of participatory communities through Basic Ecclesiastical Communities, making the Church truly a Church of the poor.

"This thrust of making the Church truly a Church of the poor is quite difficult because there are many rich people in the Church, the lifestyles, structures, values, that prevent the building of the Church of the poor," Quevedo said. **Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

Gov blames official's son for abduction

COTABATO CITY—A son of a local politician and five others who have links with Moro rebels have conspired to abduct Chinese national Zhang Zhong Quiang in North Cotabato, Gov. Emmanuel Piñol charged yesterday.

Piñol's revelation came after five suspects who were arrested by police tagged a son of an influential town official as the mastermind of the kidnapping.

Zhang, 43, an official of China Import-Export Technologies (Citech), was seized on June 20, while on board a van from Davao City en route to Carmen, North Cotabato, site of the Japanese-funded Malitubog-Maridagao irrigation dam where Citech is among the subcontractors.

Piñol identified the suspects, who were held for questioning, as van owner Percival Ceriales, driver Vicente Guingona, construction worker Jimmy Navaja, and security guards Rudy Balasama and a certain Naser.

The governor refused to identify the brains of the Zhang abduction.

"I talked to the guy about it, but he denied. But the fact remains that his companions are pointing at him as their boss," Piñol said.

He said he had given the man two days to hand over Zhang, an engineer who could hardly speak English.

On Monday, Moro Islamic Liberation Front spokesperson Eid Kabalu said Zhang was brought by his captors to South Cotabato.

Kabalu said the MILF would work for Zhang's release.

Piñol said two of the arrested suspects are related to MILF field commanders operating in North Cotabato.

"Zhang is being held by an MILF commander," he said.

"I am not saying the MILF as an organization is involved, but the fact remains Zhang is in the custody of a certain MILF leader," he said. **Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

Surra kills 20 horses, carabaos in Negros

BACOLOD CITY—A dreaded animal disease has spread to two cities and three towns, killing 20 horses and carabaos in early July.

Badly hit by the Surra outbreak was Bago City, where seven horses and six carabaos died in the first week of this month, according to provincial veterinarian Renana Decena.

Decena said five carabaos died in Escalante town.

The animal disease also killed two horses in E.B. Magallona town.

The reported new deaths brought to 158 the total number of animals that have died of Surra since November 2000, said Decena.

A total of 138 horses and

carabaos were reported to have died of the animal disease in Kabankalan City and in the towns of Ilog, Cauayan and Candoni, all in southern Negros Occidental.

Surra is caused by blood parasites called Trypanosoma that destroy the blood in lymphatic vessels and internal organs like the spleen and the bone marrow.

It is transmitted from one animal to the other by mosquitoes. Animals afflicted with Surra suffer from intermittent fever, loss of appetite, lethargy, swelling of eyes and joints, edematous portion of lower abdomen and paralysis.

Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

Automatic CENTRE @ayala
with **BLIMS**

invites you to

The Wedding & Home Show

FROM JULY 11 TO AUGUST 11, 2001

A celebration of your new life together.
The introductory event of Blims fine furniture and Automatic Centre@ayala Showroom located in the heart of the country's premier business district.

From July 11 to August 11, 2001, see the latest and the best in appliances, furnitures and exhibits on the latest trends in wedding preparations, along with informative seminars and sessions on bridal fashion with designers Pepsi Herrera and Edwin Tan, Feng shui with geomancer Joseph Chau, interior design, creative cooking for two, beauty makeovers for brides, wedding planning and so much more!

In partnership with:

events
Gina Balisara & Associates

and our sponsors:

CITIBANK
a member of Citigroup

Procter & Gamble 22 332-2222

AMAYAN Holland America Line



Automatic CENTRE @ayala
6797 Ayala Avenue corner Herrera Street, Makati City

PARTICIPATED IN BY: WAVE STATION • SUGARCREAT CREATIONS Cakeshop • Cakes by CARLA • PEPSI HERRERA • EDWIN TAN • 1816 FLOWERS COMPANY • THE FLOWER CART • THE ROYAL FLOWER SHOPPE • FLOWERS OF MAY • OP DESIGNS ENTERPRISES • DREAM REPUBLIC INVITATIONS • OCAMPO'S GEMOLOGIST & JEWELERS, INC. • NELSON VILLARICA PHOTOGRAPHY • UR IN FOCUS • MEDIAVISION PLUS, INC. • ISLAND PEACH BAKESHOP • D' FLOWER FACADE GIFT SHOP • BERNIE PASAMBA MUSIC CONSULTANCY • DOMINICAN TOUR & TRAVEL • CELEBRATIONS EVENTS SPECIALIST • MANDARIN ORIENTAL • SILVER SECRETS, INC.

GENTLE GIANTS/ A17

Baguio's 'angel of mercy'

GREGARIOUS barangay chair Josephine Albon, killed on Wednesday by a landslide at the height of Typhoon "Feria," could have survived, had the children she helped rescue remembered she was still behind them.

Albon, barangay chair of Pinsao Pilot Project in Baguio City, is being heralded as "an angel of mercy" when she died in the middle of a rescue mission.

She was buried alive inside the house of the Tampican family, when mud and boulders plunged 100 meters from a nearby mountain. The erosion was traced to a collapsed septic tank servicing a house she had just visited.

Lawrence Adube, chief of Baguio barangay affairs, said Albon had been busy alerting people to leave houses that were imperiled by landslides as Feria unleashed strong winds on Wednesday.

But witnesses said Albon could have survived had rescue workers and firemen managed to locate her.

They said Albon was helping the Tampican children get out of the house when the slide occurred. Killed with her were Ludovina Tampican and her eldest child Jellyn. They were among 31 people killed in Baguio due to Feria's onslaught.

"My sister was able to push the two children out of the window when the landslide occurred. When rescue workers showed up, they asked the surviving (Tampican) children if there were others inside the house. But the traumatized and visibly shocked children might have said, 'No,' so they did not rush to dig through the debris," Lorma Albon, Josephine's younger sister, said in Filipino.

Lorma said she was distraught by that piece of information.

The tale of Albon's heroism was pieced together from text messages she managed to send out before the fateful moment, when mudslides submerged the house of the Tampican family.

Her first messages described her responding to a warning that the Tampican house was in danger. Her last message, sent out at before 1 p.m., indicated that she needed immediate "back-up."

Members of Albon's own barangay rescue team got her message and proceeded immediately to the house. But they were too late.

Lorma said Albon always listened to her parents. She said one of the Albon family's golden rules was very succinct: Always lend a hand.

Cresencia Tuazon, one of Albon's buddies, said her last conversation with her friend was on Monday, but she found her listless and agitated.

"She did not even stop long enough to talk to me," Tuazon recalled.

A former varsity tennis player at the University of Baguio, Albon was described as a very "naughty" person, whose sense of humor was her most lasting trait.

Benguet Vice Gov. Edna Tabanda, a friend, said Albon often worked for other people without seeking compensation. Albon, who hailed from Benguet, left behind a brother and two sisters. *EV Espiritu, with a report from Vincent Cabreza*

Close call on deadly Halsema Highway

BY MAURICE MALANES
Benguet

WINDS and heavy rains were raging mad and we were praying hard. Amid Typhoon "Feria's" fury, we were helpless and powerless. This was especially so because we were caught flatfooted along the treacherous Halsema Highway, which has been known for its typhoon-related tales of horror and death.

"Oh my God," all of us kept on muttering almost in chorus as we trekked the highway because falling rocks could hit our heads or landslides could bury us alive.

The 250-kilometer highway, also known as the Baguio-Bontoc Road, links Baguio City to Benguet and Mt. Province.

I hitched a ride with a team of officials from the International Labor Organization (ILO), United Nations Volunteer Program (UNVP) and the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) when we were stranded along the Halsema Highway at the height of the typhoon.

The team went to Bakun, Benguet, on July 3 to inspect a community project.

Awakened by heavy downpour in the morning of July 4, the team cut short its schedule and decided to return to Baguio City, leaving Bakun at 9 a.m.

We reckoned that if the eye of the typhoon hit Northern Luzon by nightfall, we could reach Baguio by mid-afternoon and we could warm ourselves with hot *lomi* (noodles).

But Feria's fury for several times blocked our path. The warm food and warm blankets we contemplated about turned out to be two nights and almost three days away.

We were elated that a lone payload, operated by a daring Igorot driver, was ahead of us, clearing landslides and rocks that blocked our way. But the landslides were too many and some were too massive for the small payload to clear before it got dark.

We managed to inch our way toward the village of Topdac in Atok town, 38 kilometers north of Baguio or 44 km from Ampusongan, Bakun, where we came from. It was already getting dark, and the payload's operator had to retire because it was impossible for him to continue working—his machine did not have lights and had run out of fuel.

We had no choice but to spend the night on the road. Having skipped lunch, we felt the pangs of hunger and thirst by night.

Saving our day were five bottles of mineral water (one for each of us) and some soda crackers, which Antonio Triunfo, ILO-Manila's service driver, had brought with him all the way from Manila, courtesy of his wife who packed his things.

Huseyin Polat, an official of the ILO-Geneva office, also brought out some Swiss chocolates.

Our next problem was how to get some sleep.

But we were sleepless in Topdac. The howling wind and the pounding rain generated fears of falling rocks and an avalanche of soil burying us alive. Luckily, we survived the night.

By early morning, stranded motorists were queuing up for something to drink or eat at a lone *sari-sari* (variety) store in the village.

"Ay apo, nabayag ay adi-ak nakail-ilas plato (Oh dear me, I've not seen a plate for a long time)," said a farmer from Buguias town, referring to the three meals he missed while stranded on the road.

And the same man bewailed the provincial and local government's disaster preparedness program. "Last Monday (almost two days before the typhoon came), they (officials) were parading, campaigning for disaster preparedness, but now this lone payload had no crude oil and no lights," he said in Kankana-ey.

"What disaster-preparedness are they (officials) talking about?" he

barked. "Pity the starving children shivering in the cold (referring to children and babies who were stranded with their parents)."

Ball of fire

It was almost 10 a.m. Thursday when the operator of the payload resumed work. By 2 p.m., we left three big landslides, each of which was big enough to bury three buses. Together with hundreds of stranded motorists, we crawled our way to Km 21, where we had to spend the night again.

It was on this second leg of our trek when we had a close brush with death. Some men supervising the opening of the road requested us to use the ILO-Manila's vehicle—a four-wheel drive Land Cruiser—in giving light to a bigger payload, which was working without lights in Guerrilla Saddle village in the border of Atok and Tublay towns. We readily agreed.

But we were shocked when the payload we were following on an uphill road overheated and caught fire. For us in the vehicle, our fear was that the payload might back-track and hit our vehicle, and we would all burn. Or it would push our vehicle down the cliff.

Such fears could have happened because for a few seconds, the payload was moving back toward us. Miraculously, it came to a halt because the operator was alert that he set the machine's hand brakes before he jumped off.

The situation was so shocking that



A RESIDENT points to the spot where barangay captain Josephine Albon was killed at the height of Typhoon "Feria's" strong rains and wind last week. Similar landslides dotted the treacherous Halsema Highway where hundreds of commuters were stranded last week.

EV ESPRITU

our two women companions—one seated beside the driver and the other on the backseat near the right door—decided fast to jump, despite the driv-

er's and Polat's advice for us not to panic.

Had the payload moved back and hit our vehicle, the two women—

Thelma Diwa of the Neda national office and Ruby Bañez of the UN Volunteer Program—would have been the survivors.

And the driver, Polat, who was seated near the left door in the backseat, and I, who was in the middle of the backseat, would have been the fatalities because we did not jump.

But we all survived, except for minor bruises in the head and arm of Bañez that she suffered when she stumbled after jumping for her life.

The sight of blood oozing from Bañez's head worried us at first because we didn't know the extent of the wound. And the nearest hospital in La Trinidad town was still 20 km away and that we could not get to it because of five major landslides, which were cleared only the next day.

We had Bañez checked up at the Benguet General Hospital in La Trinidad only the next day after another night on the road at Km 21 in Tublay. The doctor assured us that her injury was minor and needed only some hot-and-cold compress therapy.

But together with the other hundreds of motorists trapped, we were grateful to the heavens for we had survived 56 hours of trembling along the deadly Halsema Highway, which, we learned later, also had its share of buried fatalities during Feria's rage.

Used to the efficient transportation system in Geneva, Polat wonders how local folk survive and cope with danger each time a deadly disaster, such as Feria, strikes.

He also finds it "incredible" that a highway, most of which is actually dirt road, is so ill-maintained when it is a major road network to the heart of the Cordillera.

Polat's questions are the same ones local folk, most of them vegetable farmers, are asking from officials and political leaders, whose names are still painted on rocks and walls along the road when they were courting for votes in the last elections.



The best low fares in the air just got even better.

2-day Advance Purchase Fares

Routes	Normal Fares	Value Fares	2-Day Advance Purchase Fares
BACOLOD-CEBU vice-versa	P1,599	P1,399	P1,299
ILOILO-CEBU vice-versa	P1,799	P1,599	P1,499
MANILA/ROXAS vice-versa	P2,279	P1,979	P1,799
CEBU/DAVAO vice-versa	P2,339	P2,039	P1,949
CEBU/ZAMBOANGA vice-versa	P2,388	P2,089	P1,999
ZAMBOANGA/DAVAO vice-versa	P2,388	P2,089	P2,399
MANILA/BACOLOD vice-versa	P2,498	P2,199	P2,199
MANILA/ILOILO vice-versa	P2,498	P2,199	P2,199
MANILA/CEBU vice-versa	P2,608	P2,309	P2,199
MANILA/TACLOBAN vice-versa	P2,718	P2,419	P2,399
MANILA/KALIBO vice-versa	P2,608	P2,309	P2,399
MANILA/DUMAGUETE vice-versa	P2,608	P2,309	P2,399
MANILA/CAGAYAN de ORO vice-versa	P3,295	P2,919	P2,549
MANILA/DAVAO vice-versa	P3,307	P2,919	P2,549
MANILA/ZAMBOANGA vice-versa	P3,295	P2,639	P2,549
ILOILO/DAVAO vice-versa	P3,295	P2,839	P2,549

- All tickets are REFUNDABLE, REROUTABLE and UPGRADABLE to valid higher fare types. All issued tickets are NON-TRANSFERABLE.
- Booking and rebooking requirements for 2-Day Advance Purchase fares must strictly be adhered to. (Closed booking required)
- Fares Travel Validity: From June 13-October 12, 2001.
- Last Selling Date: October 10, 2001.
- Child, senior citizen and student discounts will not apply on these fares.
- Limited seats will be offered on these special fares.
- All fares are subject to government approval.

CEBU PACIFIC
Summit
Many Happy Returns



Call 636-4938
or the Sales Agent nearest you
www.cebupacificair.com

Gentle giants . . . (From page 16)

But the residents' friendliness was not there when they approached the Lingayen beach in May. During the first days at the gulf, the Philippine National Police's maritime police arrested several fishermen who were throwing dynamite sticks at the *supoks*.

"At least 13 dynamite sticks were thrown at them," the villagers reported to the Lingayen Gulf Coastal Area Management Commission.

But residents, local officials and members of the media have closed ranks to protect the gentle sea giants. Shed owners in Lingayen even tried to beat up the blast fishers who were arrested by the police.

The whale sharks are instrumental in teaching a valuable lesson to Pangasinenses—the need to protect the endangered species.

"Wherever the *supoks* are, people there would call us up, telling us to come because heartless people

might harm them," Rosario said.

But as the days go by and the sea visitors do not succumb to blasting, coastal residents have learned to live harmoniously with the sea giants.

"There have been no reports of illegal fishermen trying to catch, or kill, the whale sharks now," Rosario said.

In fact, fishermen move away from where the sea creatures are to avoid hurting them with their fishing nets.

"It's against the law," Alejandro Molina, 44, a fisherman from San Fabian, said of catching the whale sharks. Earlier, he said he was gathering seaweed about 100 meters from a *supok* in the waters off Bolasi village, a tourism area.

"We just let them be. They are harmless to us and they make people happy," Molina said.



VAL HANDUMON

JUSTICE ANACLETO BADOY: "The warning must ring loud, clear and unmistakable to one and all..."



JUSTICE SERAFIN CUEVAS in this file photo taken in 1999 with then President Estrada.

EDWIN BACASMAS



VAL HANDUMON

A PENSIVE Edward Serapio listens intently to the arraignment proceedings at the Sandiganbayan.

'A new day has dawned,' says Badoy

(From page A1)

The clarification came after the clerk of court read the charges against "former President Joseph Ejercito Estrada also known as Asiong Salonga and also known as Jose Velarde."

Based on the information read by clerk of court Lily Biton, the elder Estrada, together with several others, allegedly connived to enrich themselves by P4 billion and received more than P500 million from illegal gambling.

The former President was alleged to have taken more than P130 million in public funds from the tobacco excise tax, influenced the Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System into buying shares from Belle Corp. and hid the money under the account of Jose Velarde.

Estrada, who denies any wrongdoing, is also facing charges of graft, illegal use of an alias and violation of ethics.

No dates have been set for Estrada's arraignment on the graft and the violation of ethics charges.

The former President, wearing a white *barong*, entered the courtroom at around 2:15 p.m. accompanied by his lawyers, his wife Sen. Luisa "Loi" Ejercito and son Jinggoy.

They were met by daughter Jackie and her husband, Beaver Lopez and Estrada son, Jude.

Estrada was seen smiling when he shook hands with Justice Secretary

Hernando Perez, who showed up at the arraignment as part of the prosecution panel.

Looking angry

Estrada emerged from the courtroom looking angry.

He ushered his wife through a hallway lined with court sheriffs while waving perfunctorily to court employees before boarding a dark-colored sports utility vehicle that took him back to the military hospital where he is detained.

The former President was airlifted from the Veterans Memorial Medical Center to the Sandiganbayan at around 2 p.m.

The arraignment came after almost two hours of oral arguments on whether the court could continue with the arraignment.

Defense lawyers had maintained that they had filed a petition for certiorari before the Supreme Court yesterday morning and asked the anti-graft court to give the high court more time to resolve it.

Former Justice Secretary Serafin Cuevas, who made his first appearance as a defense lawyer yesterday, told the court that Jinggoy Estrada was questioning the validity of the Plunder Law.

The defense lawyers noted that they still have an unresolved motion asking for the production of evidence.

Their efforts to delay or postpone the arraignment came to naught.

Last-ditch attempt

Earlier in the morning, lawyers led

by Pacifico Agabin and Cleofe Verzola filed with the Supreme Court a petition for a temporary restraining order to stop the arraignment.

In a 40-page petition, the lawyers claimed that the Plunder Law, as amended by the Heinous Crime Law or Republic Act 7659, was "vague and unconstitutional" and violated their client's right to due process.

"Both statutes suffer from the vice of vagueness, thus infringing on the guarantee of due process in its substantive aspect," the petition said.

The lawyers added that the law "also violates the right of the accused under the Constitution to be informed of the nature and cause of the charges against him."

The high court's en banc session ended past 2 p.m. but no decision on the petition was reached.

Supreme Court spokesperson Ishmail Khan said justices held a morning session but were unable to tackle Estrada's petition because it was not filed on time.

The refusal of the Supreme Court to tackle the petition yesterday paved the way for the arraignment proceedings.

Victory

Ombudsman Aniano Desierto hailed the decision of the Sandiganbayan to push through with the arraignment as an early victory for the people and the country's justice system.

Desierto also pointed out that the arraignment, no matter how the defense

panel describes it, benefited the former head of state.

He said an early arraignment would benefit the accused because it would ensure a speedy trial.

"Can you imagine the uncertainty of the accused if their lawyers succeeded in further delaying the trial?" he said.

Militant groups also hailed the decision of the Sandiganbayan to finally arraign Estrada for plunder.

"We accept with all our heart the court's decision (to enter a plea) for Estrada. We believe that they (justices) were simply being just and that they were doing their jobs well," said Teodoro Casio, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan secretary general.

He said civil society leaders were "generally happy" with the performance of Desierto and of the private and public prosecutors.

Also yesterday, the Sandiganbayan decided to postpone the bail hearing for Serapio whose lawyer said that their hands were tied by a motion that they had filed before the high court.

A pre-trial hearing was set for Sept. 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Media coverage was severely restricted with cameras, tape recorders and mobile telephones banned from the courtroom. The glass doors were shut but from outside Estrada lawyers could be seen making lengthy, animated addresses toward the bench.

Mock trial

While Estrada was being arraigned

for a plunder, his supporters held outside the Sandiganbayan a mock trial of President Macapagal-Arroyo and other People Power II personalities for "political plunder."

"The poor believe that it should not be Erap but Ms Macapagal and her allies who should be arraigned today for conspiracy against the poor," said Arnold C. Obina, spokesperson of the Peoples' Watch for Truth and Justice (PWTJ).

"It should be Ms Macapagal and her backers that should be indicted for creating havoc in our politics and economy to justify their power grab from a legitimate presidency installed by the poor majority," Obina said.

Some 400 Estrada supporters marched on the Sandiganbayan, waving red and orange flags.

However, they did not get anywhere near the anti-graft court, which was guarded by nearly 2,000 policemen.

Around 200 members of anti-Estrada Plunder Watch alliance also held a vigil at the right front side of the court. They were dispersed earlier after they tried to stay right in front of the Sandiganbayan.

The police made sure that the pro and anti-Estrada groups did not clash.

Obina lambasted the People Power II forces for failing to improve the country's economy.

"On the contrary, our economy is down and our political front unstable. We are experiencing rising unemploy-

ment, devaluation of the peso and rising prices of fuel and basic commodities, while the wages of ordinary people remain the same," Obina said.

"They said Erap was the problem. But look at the country's situation, it has gotten worse," Obina said.

After lunch on the sidewalk under the scorching noonday sun, the Estrada supporters proceeded with the mock trial.

Some wore costumes and impersonated Ms Macapagal, former Presidents Fidel Ramos and Corason Aquino, and Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin.

The protesters also vented their ire on Chief Justice Hilario Davide and other Supreme Court justices, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, Guillermo Luz, Bayan Muna and Kompil II.

Like Estrada, the impersonators remained silent and did not enter a plea when the mock court charged them with "conspiracy for political plunder."

But the crowd shouted "Guilty! Guilty!" as each charge was read.

"Down with all of them! Feed them to the sharks!" a male protester shouted.

But despite the fiery rhetoric of their organizers, the pro-Estrada crowd remained peaceful and voluntarily withdrew after the arraignment proceedings against their idol inside the Sandiganbayan ended. *With reports from Michael Lim Ubac and Andrea Trinidad-Echavez*

Lawyers' group, deputy ombudsman at war

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

WHILE prosecutors in the Estrada plunder case hailed his arraignment yesterday, two of them—an outspoken private lawyer and the No. 2 man in the Office of the Ombudsman—are having an internal war of their own.

Distrust has driven a wedge between lawyer Leonard de Vera, whose group Clear was among the complainants in the plunder charge, and Overall Deputy Ombudsman Margarito Gervacio, the only Estrada-appointed in the public prosecution team.

In previous media interviews, Gervacio had openly accused De Vera of being a "Trojan Horse" in the roster of private prosecutors, while the latter had labeled Gervacio as the Estrada camp's "planted spy" in the prosecution panel.

In an interview yesterday, De Vera said Clear and his other newly formed Estrada trial watchdog group E-Just were now calling for Gervacio's "withdrawal" from the prosecution team.

He clarified, though, that this was "not yet" the position of the private prosecutors themselves, but only of Clear and E-Just.

He said that private lawyers had collectively agreed to at least admit

to the press that "all is not well between the private and the public prosecutors."

"We had complained to Ombudsman Aniano Desierto about him (Gervacio) working with us. He seems to be screening our communications to the Ombudsman," he said.

De Vera also blamed Gervacio for "our delayed receipt of important court papers and documents, including pleadings filed by the defense."

Worse, he alleged, "we are also surprised that the defense panel was able to make preemptive actions against our planned course of action." De Vera declined to elaborate.

The rift between them, he said, started last month "when he accused me of falsely claiming that I am the official spokesperson of the private prosecution. In truth, I was really appointed (as such) in writing."

He said fellow private counsel Ricardo Nepomuceno already "corrected" Gervacio on this, but that the latter "repeated" the same charge in the media last week.

After dealing with Gervacio, the voluble De Vera had to endure another attack, this time from the Estrada political machinery, the Partido ng Masang Pilipino.

Cuevas takes pity on ex-boss

(From page A1)

he was directly responsible for the bloopers.

Cuevas eventually left the Estrada Cabinet after more disagreements involving two of the President's friends, business tycoon Lucio Tan and fugitive from American justice Mark Jimenez, now a congressman.

Cuevas admitted that he really felt bad about the Manero incident. He told reporters that it was the main reason he left the Estrada Cabinet in February 2000.

"I was not involved in graft and corruption during my stint as Cabinet secretary and yet, because of the Manero issue, *ako ang nakursunadahan* (I became the target). It was a good thing Ronnie Zamora later admitted his error," Cuevas said.

Cuevas said Zamora played a significant part in convincing him to accept Estrada's plunder case.

"President Estrada reached me through mutual friends, especially Ronnie Zamora. Erap (Estrada's nickname) wanted me to defend him and his son (former San Juan Mayor) Jinggoy," he said.

Cuevas disclosed that Estrada had even called him up to ask for forgiveness for their disagreements.

"The President said *pasensya na daw ako at tulungan ko daw siya*. Of course I took pity on him," Cuevas said.

Yesterday morning, Cuevas entered his formal appearance as defense coun-

sel of Estrada and Jinggoy.

Asked whether he was serving as the Estradas' principal lawyer in the plunder case, Cuevas could not give a definite answer. "It depends on Erap," he responded. Reporters regularly covering the Sandiganbayan hearings noted that Cuevas attended at least two of them in the past month as an observer.

While Cuevas was still pondering whether to accept the job, he had already begun his homework—doing research on the plunder case.

Cuevas said his studies showed that Estrada was not guilty.

He said he could defend the deposed President convincingly if provided with an unbiased forum.

"Definitely, we have a chance of winning the case. Considering the evidence of the prosecution, the case cannot be considered plunder," he said.

Not plunder but indiscretion

"The case is not plunder but an indiscretion. It could be a violation of the Anti-Graft Law or the Revised Penal Code. The problem is that prosecutors quickly insisted that the charge should be plunder," Cuevas complained.

Based on his research, plunder is committed through a series or combination of schemes or processes. "So if there was a liability (in Estrada's case), it cannot be plunder if it was only one act," he said.

Cuevas, formerly associate justice of the Supreme Court, wants to be addressed as "Justice" during the plunder trial. He said he would prefer that prosecutors and defense lawyers engage in

oral arguments before the Supreme Court to determine the proper charge against the former President.

"This case is a challenge and I want to participate in its epoch eventuality. The only thing that gets to me is that even if we present good arguments before the presiding judge, our motions are always turned down," Cuevas said.

The former justice secretary said he could not recall any incident while still serving the Cabinet that would point to Estrada's links to "jueteng," an illegal numbers game, as alleged by former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson.

"I have seen Singson come with us in several trips (to Mindanao) but that's all there is to it. There was no indication of any jueteng connection," he said.

Cuevas noted that during the impeachment trial, the evidence presented did not sufficiently prove that Estrada had connections with gambling lords.

"That's why we are starting anew with this trial. With the help of cross-examination we can ferret out the truth," he said.

Cuevas said he still felt sorry for not being able to join Estrada's defense team during his impeachment trial.

At least, he feels better by making up for it in the plunder case.

No fees

Ever the gentleman, Cuevas said he did not intend to charge Estrada legal fees.

"*Nakakahiya kay Erap*. I will not charge him anything. Any payment will depend on his magnanimity," he said.

Estrada no longer hot issue

(From page A1)

sion of Pulse Asia head, Felipe Miranda, who presented his latest survey at the Cabinet meeting at the Palace yesterday.

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said that Miranda's survey showed 48 percent of Filipinos surveyed preferred to place the ousted leader under house arrest; 39 percent wanted him jailed.

"The conclusion of Professor Miranda is that he thinks Estrada is no longer a political issue. It is starting to recede as a political issue," Tiglao said.

Adding Malacañang's view, he said: "The assessment of our security people is it started to recede as a political issue. Filipinos are starting to feel that it's basically a law procedure, it's not a political process nor test but a question of implementing the laws of the land."

Tiglao made the announcement on the day Estrada was arraigned for plunder at the Sandiganbayan. *(Story on Page A1)*

Tiglao said the police reported that there was a crowd of 500 outside the Sandiganbayan—300 pro-Estrada and 200 anti-Estrada.

Tiglao said there is no more destabilization plots "at this time."

Labor chief right; Inquirer story wrong

(From page A1)

she was pushing for a P125 increase in the daily minimum wage of workers in Metro Manila.

The readers' advocate upheld Sto. Tomas' claim that neither she nor the DOLE's information office issued such a press statement.

PDI reporter Norman Bordadora, who filed the report, could not produce a copy of the press statement at the best of the readers' advocate. According to the reporter, his copy of the statement somehow got misplaced.

In accordance with the finding of the readers' advocate, the INQUIRER is apologizing to Sto. Tomas and its readers for whatever aggravation and anxiety the report may have caused her and other sectors.

The INQUIRER is taking action to avoid a repeat of the mistake and is holding accountable the parties responsible.

"The truth is I never uttered anything that could be construed as direct sup-

port for raising the minimum wage by P125. I haven't even said anything that could be given such interpretation," Sto. Tomas said in a letter to the INQUIRER.

In a talk with the INQUIRER, however, Sto. Tomas admitted there was a need to review the minimum wage rates in various regions due to "supervening events" that have eroded the value of workers' wages.

No preempting of wage boards

"This is a good time to review the wages because there has been a clamor for it and the fact that (prices of) basic goods have increased," she said.

Sto. Tomas said she did not want to prescribe a definite amount of increase because she did not want to preempt the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Boards that are mandated by law to fix wages on a regional basis.

"My position on the wage issue is that it ought to be done by the wage boards," she said. "You can't preempt this because you have to hear arguments from both sides at the regional level

particularly."

So far only the Eastern Visayas wage board based in Tacloban City has received a petition for a wage increase of P20.

Sto. Tomas said Congress may approve a wage increase for workers nationwide but the rate of adjustment should vary from region to region.

"There are differentials insofar as the cost of living in the different regions are concerned," she said.

Last week, Sen. Juan Flavio filed a bill proposing a P125 increase in the minimum wage nationwide.

Opposition

But businessman Raul Concepcion, chair of the Federation of Philippine Industries, warned that congressional approval of a P125 across-the-board wage increase would be disastrous to the economy.

Concepcion said any wage increase should be based on how much prices had gone up since the last minimum wage adjustment in November 2000.

At least 10 business groups in Cebu

have also written President Macapagal-Arroyo to express their concern over a government-mandated wage increase.

"Any wage increase at this time will lead to the closure of companies, especially small- and medium-scale enterprises, both in the export zones and in the region," they said in their letter to the President.

Elberto Emphasis, presidential liaison officer for Central Visayas, yesterday said some companies at the Mactan Economic Zone threatened to relocate to China if the proposed wage hike would push through.

Leyte and Iloilo businessmen have also raised similar concerns.

"At this time, most businesses cannot afford that (P125 increase) and if possible there should not be any increase," said Marissa Segovia, president of the Iloilo Business Club (IBC), the first regional affiliate of the Makati Business Club.

"Our businesses would be heavily affected by any increase and we won't be able to employ anyone at such an

expensive rate," said Ramon Cuatrecasas, vice president of the Fil-Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Panay.

The Leyte Chamber of Commerce and Industry warned that the proposed wage increase, if approved, would lead to the shutdown of many companies in Eastern Visayas.

Exaggerated

But former Sen. Ernesto Herrera dismissed projections of mass layoffs as "grossly exaggerated."

On the average, he said, labor costs account for only about 5 percent of the total cost of production in most industries.

Herrera said any layoffs in the coming months would be triggered mainly by the peso's fall against the dollar, which is hurting import-intensive firms as well as those with large dollar-denominated debts.

"These firms will retrench workers anyway, whether or not there will be a wage increase. So they should be factored out," Herrera said.

The militant Kilusang Mayo Uno

reiterated its call for the abolition of the wage boards, saying these no longer served the workers' interests.

"They (wage boards) are dominated by big business groups allergic to wage increases. Their main function is to ensure that workers' wages remain nailed to the floor and all wage increases will be so small that they'll barely make a dent on capitalists' profits," KMW spokesperson Sammy Malunes said.

He said the KMW would not submit any petition to the wage boards.

The fisherfolk group Pamalakaya said the battle for wage increases had shifted to Congress.

"The failure of regional wage boards to address the demand will send the workers back to the streets and press Congress to act on their just call for higher wages," it said. *Reports from Gerald G. Lacuarta and Andrea Trinidad-Echavez in Manila; and Irene R. Sino-Cruz, Jhunnex Napallacan and Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

Biag, Emperado outwit rivals

TOP seed Ivan Gil Biag of Cavite and second seed Emmanuel Emperado of St. James College of Parañaque shared the lead in the second round of the Little Chess League training tournament held over the weekend at the 2/F Center Mall, Greenhills Shopping Center. The 12-year-old candidate master Biag forced MJ Turqueza to resign in 39 moves of a French defense while 14-year-old Emperado prevailed over Abigail Rivas in 46 moves of a Queen's Pawn game. Games resume on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

SPORTS ON TV COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUAT

GOLF: LPGA Jamie Farr Kroger Classic, Second Round at 7 a.m. (r) on ESPN
PGA Advil Western Open, Third Round at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

BASKETBALL: 2001 ABC Champions Cup, Preliminary Round at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Star Sports
CYCLING: 2001 Tour De France Highlights

Stage #3 at 1:30 p.m. (r-7:30 p.m.) on ESPN
BOXING: Behind the Fights - Madison Square Garden Fights Part II at 10:30 p.m. on ESPN

CASAS PLAYING

CAP-Legends Classic on tomorrow

PHILIPPINE Open champion Cassius Casas will tee off as the hands-down favorite when the new local professional tour resumes tomorrow with the College Assurance Plan-Legends Classic at the Southwoods Legends.



CASAS

Richer by more than P1.5 million following his Open victory two weeks ago at Wack Wack, the 34-year-old Casas faces local challengers led by Danny Zarate, second-placer in the P9.5-million NGAP-organized Open, in the P700,000 Southwoods event.

The tour's main sponsor, the College Assurance Plan, will again bankroll the fifth stop after previous

legs at Southwoods Masters, Camp John Hay, Sherwood Hills and Forest Hills.

"We know for a fact that our pros are in the peak of their games following their Philippine Open campaign. So we can expect a lot of action and drama unfolding on the fairways and greens each round," said lawyer Enrique Sobrepeña, president and CEO of CAP.

The CAP support includes prize packages for the seniors, the super seniors, the pro-am and the amateurs.

A total of P500,000 will be distributed in the regular division, P60,000 for the seniors (50 years and above), P20,000 for the super seniors and P25,000 in the pro-am.

The Legends will undertake a re-greening using the TifEagle grass after this week's tournament.

"In a way, it's also a fitting tribute to the course that contributed a lot to the growth of Fil-Estate as a force in the property sector," said Bob Sobrepeña, chair of both the Manila Southwoods and the Philippine Tour.

The Legends is the first signature course of Jack Nicklaus in the country. It hosted the John Daly-Tom Kite duel in 1992, two Philippine Opens (1993-96) and the World Amateurs in 1996.

Others out to challenge Casas are deposed Open champion Gerald Rosales and leg winners Rey Pagunsan (MRT-Southwoods Open), Antonio Lascuña (Ericsson-Smart Classic at Sherwood Hills), Richard Sinfuego (John Hay Open) and Danny Zarate (CAP-Forest Hills Classic).

Purefoods, SMB seek Final 4

GAMES TODAY

(PhilSports)
5:15 p.m. - Purefoods vs Tanduay
7:30 p.m. - San Miguel vs Ginebra

BY MARC

ANTHONY REYES

PBA STANDINGS

	W	L
SMB	5	2
Purefoods	5	2
Red Bull	5	2
Alaska	4	4
Sta. Lucia	4	4
Ginebra	4	3
Mobiline	3	4
Pop Cola	3	5
Tanduay	2	5
Shell	2	6

A STINT in the elite Final Four cast is what San Miguel Beer and Purefoods seek today when they square off with Barangay Ginebra and Tanduay Gold, respec-

tively, in the PBA Commissioner's Cup at PhilSports. Tied for the lead with idle Batang Red Bull, victories by the Beermen and the Hotdogs would give them the twice-to-beat slots in the quarterfinals outright.

Purefoods, its existence uncertain at the moment, has strung up five victories thus far going to its 5:15 encounter with Tanduay.

San Miguel goes up against sister Ginebra at 7:30 p.m.

"This is a testament to the team's maturity and ability to rise up to the challenge," said Purefoods coach Eric Altamirano. "Although our future remains uncertain, we won't just roll over and die. That's what you call professionalism."

The PBA board has yet to decide on the fate of

Purefoods, which has been recently acquired as San Miguel Corporation's third team in the PBA.

The league has no existing rules on the number of franchises a member-corporation is allowed to own.

Ironically, after losing to "sister teams" San Miguel and Ginebra, the Hotdogs went on a rampage that began almost a month ago with a 65-54 win over Sta. Lucia.

Jalasco's gambit

FREDDIE Jalasco, the country's chief of mission to the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games, yesterday said he would form a temporary basketball lineup to beat the July 15 deadline. Jalasco said the lineup could still be altered two days before the Sept. 8 tournament proper or during the time when the member-countries hold the managers' meeting. Olympic president Celso Dayrit agreed with Jalasco's idea. But Dayrit said he preferred an early solution to the conflict between BAP "presidents" Lito Puyat and Tiny Lital before a team could be finally formed.

June Navarro

Gems' luck staked vs Patriots

Games Today (Cebu City Coliseum)
3:00 p.m. - Socsargen vs Davao
5:30 p.m. - Nueva Ecija vs Cebu

BY ROY LUARCA

THE CEBUANA Lhuillier Gems' invincibility at home will again be tested when they tangle with the Nueva Ecija Patriots at 5:30 p.m. today.

Inspired by the spirited crowd, the Gems have won all of their five games at the Cebu City Coliseum and, with a 6-3 card, will be gunning for a share of the lead in the Metropolitan Basketball Association First Phase.

Fresh from a 116-104 vengeful conquest of the FedEx Laguna Lakers last

Sunday, the Gems are favored over the skidding Patriots.

Matthew Mitchell will again be on the forefront of the Gems' bid to catch up with the Negros Slashers and the Andok's San Juan Knights.

Showing versatility, Mitchell finished with 30 points, 14 rebounds, 8 assists, 5 blocks and 4 steals for the Gems, who are unbeaten in their first five games at home. Additional firepower would come from Peter Naron, Homer Se, Stephen Padilla and Al Solis.

The 6-foot-6 Mitchell and the 6-5 Se are again expected to dominate the shaded lane against the Patriots, whose top rebounder is 6-4 Dave Bautista.

Pangilinan breaks silence

MANNY V. Pangilinan, the PLDT boss who owns Mobiline in the PBA, broke his silence yesterday in the ongoing leadership rift in the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

Pangilinan had been earlier named as the best person to mediate between warring factions of Lito Puyat and Tiny Lital.

"But for a compromise to materialize, the (Puyat and Lital) parties must be prepared to make sacrifices. If the parties are not willing to make sacrifices, we might as well forget the whole exercise."

The BAP was suspended recently by the World Basketball Federation (Fiba) for failing to resolve the leadership tussle between BAP "presidents" Puyat and Lital.

In trying to resolve the dispute, Pangilinan has suggested that both sides agree to form a team for the SEA Games in Kuala Lumpur, and to craft a mutually acceptable statute that would lead to the election of BAP officials with an unquestionable mandate.

Puyat had agreed to both, but Lital said he wanted first to know the members of the steering committee headed by Pangilinan before making a decision.

SPORTSWATCH

'Eagles Night' at The Fort

ALUMNI, parents and friends of the Ateneo de Manila University will launch the "Booster Club" today at 6:30 p.m. at the NBC Tent, The Fort, in an evening called the "Eagles Night." The Booster Club is designed to support the sports program of Ateneo—basketball, football, volleyball, track and field, baseball, softball, chess, fencing, judo, taekwondo, swimming, badminton, table tennis, lawn tennis and cheerleading. Mr. Manuel V. Pangilinan, PLDT CEO/president, is the Booster Club's chair. Call 426-6081-82, 426-6001 loc. 4190 and 4191 for more details. Dinner will be served at 7 to be followed by a program featuring the Ateneo Athletes, The Ateneo HS '77 Brass Band and the Spirit of Sixty-Seven will provide the evening's entertainment.

BEST Center registration

REGISTRATION is still going on for the Milo BEST Center's Saturday-and Sunday-only classes at Ateneo College covered courts and St. Benedict College, respectively. Level 1, 2, 3 and 4 sessions at Ateneo are scheduled from July 7 to Aug. 25 from 8 to 11 a.m. Level 1, 2 and 3 clinics at St. Benedict are slated from July 8 to Aug. 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. Interested boys and girls may call The BEST Center, tel. nos. 411-6260 and 372-3065/66 for more details.

2 titles each for Diez, Adaza

CAGAYAN de Oro City—Ed Angelo Diez of Davao whipped Alexis Lapaz, 6-2, 6-0, to bag the boys' 16-under division then tripped Duma Boloto, 6-4, 6-1, to pocket the boys' 14-under bracket in the Adidas Tennis Challenge here. Patricia Adaza of Mati, Davao Oriental, also became a double winner by beating Jasper Cabisog, 6-4, 6-3, in the girls 16-under and Irene Serito, 6-4, 6-3, in the girls 14-under in the netfest organized by CTW and supported by Milo and Sports Kids. On hand to award the Adidas trophies was club vice president Sammy Cheng.

Bon voyage Bata Reyes & Co.

THE STAR-STUDED 2001 World Pro Pool Championship in Cardiff, Wales, on July 14-22 has long been circled on their calendar since Efrén "Bata" Reyes won the prestigious title in 1999.

And their long trip begins today when members of the popular Philippine-Puyat Sports team, headed by Reyes himself, leave for London en route to the Cardiff International Arena, site of the keenly awaited tournament which features the world's leading 9-ball billiards artists.

"The players are ready to do battle," said chummy team manager Rolie Vicente. "We've trained too hard and traveled too far to let up now. We've got to do a good job in Cardiff because that's what we're coming there for."

In this year's World Pool Championship, 44 countries will be sending a total of 128 cue artists, including eight Filipinos, to the competition covered live on television by ESPN. With Reyes in the Philippine team are Francisco "Django" Bustamante, Rodolfo "Boy Samson" Lunt, Leonardo "Dodong" Andam, Ramil "Bebeng" Gallego, Warren Kiamco, Antonio "Nickoy" Lining and Canada-based Alex Pagulayan who is registered as a Canadian entry.

Among the Filipino hopefuls, Gallego faces the most daunting task because he is bracketed in Group 1—considered as the tournament's toughest—with defending champion Fong Pang-chao of Taiwan. But Gallego, a native of Bacolod City, is unfazed: He is banking on his vast experience and past achievements, notably in the Asian billiards scene. In 1997, Gallego won the Asian Championship in Taiwan. Much earlier, he topped the 1992 and 1994 All-Japan Championships in Osaka and captured the

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo



1993 Japan Open in Tokyo.

Of course, Reyes, Bustamante, Lunt, Andam and Lining need no further introduction.

"They are the best at present," said Aristeo "Putch" Puyat, young brother of Jose "Popit" Puyat, the other half of billiards longtime benefactors. "Let's all wish them luck and pray for their success."

The most dominant player in recent billiards history, Reyes should be (he isn't listed yet as this was being written) in the roster of Filipino athletes that will compete in the Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur this September. Reyes (and Andam for that matter) richly deserved a place in the RP delegation having won several gold medals in previous SEA Games. Reyes won the gold medal in 1999 in Brunei and 1987 in Jakarta while Andam clinched four golds in 1991 in Manila.

By carrying the colors in Kuala Lumpur, Reyes will be skipping the US Open which is also billed in September, in the process missing the golden chance to win a fortune. But his main goal is to win the SEA Games gold and not to win that pot of gold in America.

APA ASIA INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS, INC.



TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT

UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
JULY 18, 19 & 20, 2001
INSPECTION: JULY 15-17
SALE STARTS at 8:00 a.m.

- NO MINIMUM PRICE
- ALL MUST GO
- TAXES & DUTIES PAID
- AUCTION STYLE: PARADE



THOUSANDS OF MACHINES

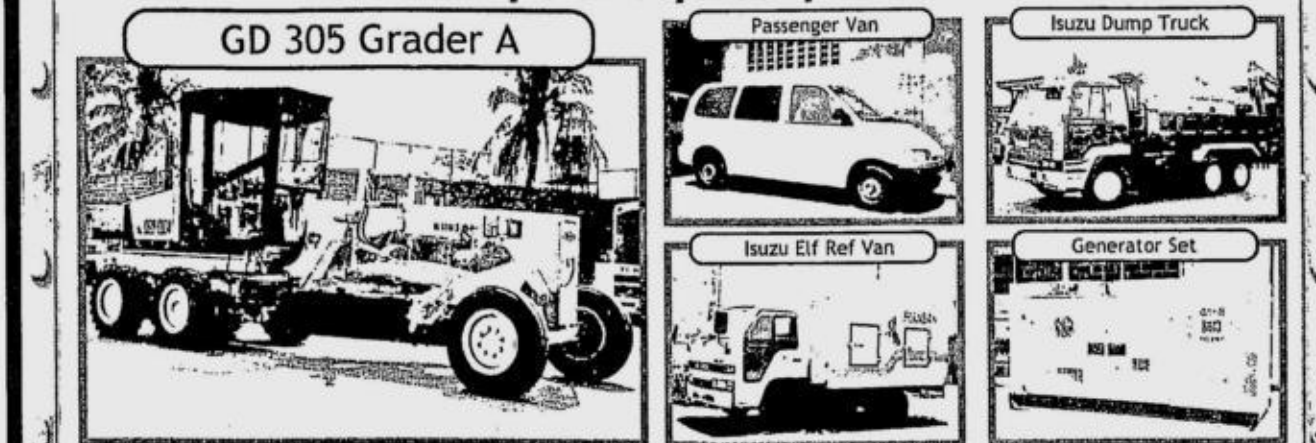
FROM JAPAN, U.S., AUSTRALIA, EUROPE & KOREA

Lower Mau Camp, Argonaut Hi-way, Subic Bay
Subic Tel: (047) 252-3333/252-7936/252-6841 • Fax: (047) 252-6840/252-1441
Manila Tel: (02) 531-5751/ 531-5789/531-5061
Email: asiainc@avisp.com
<http://www.asia-intl-auctioneers.com>

HEAVY EQUIPMENT, ACCESSORIES, C.B.U. TRUCKS & VEHICLES

AUCTION IN MALINTA

A 3-DAY UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
AUGUST 8, 9 & 10, 2001; 8:30 a.m.



ALL LOTS MUST GO!!! GUARANTEED NO MINIMUM PRICE! NO BUY BACK!
• CRANES • DOZERS • EXCAVATORS • LOADERS • GRADERS • VIB. COMPACTORS • CARGO DUMP FIRE TANKER
• GARBAGE & MANLIFT TRUCKS • REFRIGERATED ALUMINUM VANS • PASSENGER VANS • TRACTOR HEADS
• WING VANS • BUSES • JEEPS, PASSENGER VANS & TRUCKS • GEN SETS • COMPRESSORS • WELDERS •
PORTABLE LIGHT • FARM TRACTORS • EQUIPMENT ATTACHMENTS • AND MORE!
Inspection and Pre-Registration Dates:
August 4, 5 & 6, 2001
All Items Newly Imported! All Items Taxes & Duties Paid!
All Units Ready to Roll Out! No Custom Headache!
Site#1 (Former Bata Compound) Km 19 East Service Road North Luzon Expressway, Lwag Bato, Valenzuela City
Tel. no: 984-0215/16 • 984-0278/79
Site#2 15 IRC Compound, Paso de Blas, Malinta, Valenzuela City
Tel. no: 984-0215/16 • 984-0278/79

The Country's Newest Film Club Gives You One Monster Of A Movie.



The **SMART** Cinema Club

presents



Join Now And You Could Get Two Exclusive Premiere Tickets -- Free.

Get reel with Smart's most exciting group yet: The Smart Cinema Club. Sign up from July 8 to 17, 2001 and you could be among the 300 registrants to watch the Jurassic Park III premiere on July 22, 2001. What's more, Smart Cinema Club members will be able to enjoy exclusive logos, graphics, and games as well as other chances to watch future showings of the hottest upcoming movies. So join now, and experience the lights, camera, action of this amazing club today.



JPOVAL
(Picture Message)



JPTXTL
(Operator Logo)



JPOSTER
(Picture Message)



JPTERA
(Picture Message)



JPOVALL
(Operator Logo)

Official Jurassic Park III Graphics*

To join the Smart Cinema Club, key in **JOIN CINEMA** and send to 239. You will receive instructions for the next registration steps.

To invite friends to join, key in **INVITE** <your friends' numbers> and send to 239. You can invite up to 3 friends at one time.

To receive more information on different commands, key in **HELP** <command> and send to 239.

OPERATOR LOGOS:
To get the list of keywords, key in **LOGO JP** and send to 239.
To download a logo, key in **LOGO** <keyword> and send to 239.

GROUP GRAPHICS:
To get the list of keywords, key in **GRAPHIC JP** and send to 239.
To download a group graphic, key in **GRAPHIC** <keyword> and send to 239.

Promo Mechanics:

- From July 8-17, 2001, all Smart Gold and Buddy subscribers registered with the Smart Cinema Club are eligible to win free premiere tickets to Jurassic Park III to be shown on July 22, 2001.
- Draw date will be on July 18, 2001. Winners will be notified by text message and a call to their registered mobile number.
- Winners can claim their prize at DDB Phils., 10/F Legaspi Suites, Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City starting July 18, 2001. Or at the Smart Cinema Club Booth at the Robinsons Galleria Cinema on July 22, 2001.
- Promo is for the Greater Metro Manila area only.

See flyers for details.

All text messages will be charged P2.50 each. Logos, graphics, and picture messages are P12.00 each. For more info, call your Smart Customer Care Hotline at 888-1111 or *888 on your cellphone.

PICTURE MESSAGES:
To get a list of keywords, key in **PIC JP** and send to 239.
To download a picture message, key in **PIC** <keyword> and send to 239.

JURASSIC PARK III GAME:
To play the JP3 game, key in **PLAY JP** and send to 239.

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only.

In cooperation with:



Information Gateway Inc.

This service is available through:



SMART

Simply Amazing!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0957, Series of 2001.

Regular Showing Starts July 25, 2001.

- 14-year-old Vietnamese boy dies in Tondo fall A22
 ■ 6 nabbed for highway rob A22

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

- Land swap considered for Mehan Garden A22

1-M signature campaign against ROTC launched

BY ANDREA TRINIDAD-ECHAVEZ

PROTESTS against the Reserved Officers Training Corps continued to mount as youth groups on Monday started to collect 1 million signatures as part of the campaign to abolish the military training program.

In a press conference in Quezon City, convenors of Abolish! (Network for the Abolition of ROTC) vowed to fight the program "head-on, chins up, stomachs in and chests out" until it has been scrapped.

The youth organizations include Anakbayan, League of Filipino Students, and the National Student Union.

1-M SIGNATURE/ A22

When it RAINS, it REIGNS!
Clean it right!

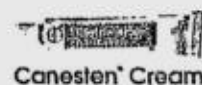


Clotrimazole



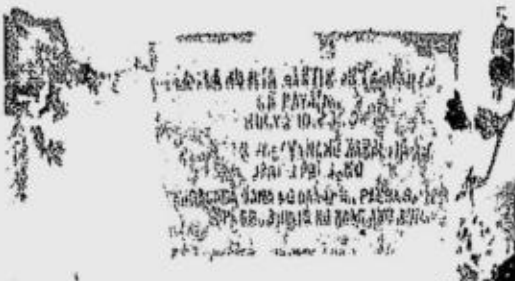
ANTI-FUNGAL ADVISORY

Fungi thrive in dark and moist places. Keeping your feet dry and changing socks more often prevent athlete's foot.



Canesten Cream

Also available, Canesten Foot Powder. If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.



PAYATAS PRAYERS

Relatives—mostly children—of more than 200 people who died in the July 10, 2000 landslide in the Payatas dump in Quezon City—yesterday lighted candles and prayed at a memorial near the site of the tragedy. In an Associated Press story, a 59-year-old woman who survived but who lost a sister in the collapse described the slide: "It was a boom and a grrr and a smash. It hurt my ears. I always cry and cry now." (Story on page A4) EDWIN BACASMAS

Equitable-PCI Bank robbed

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

TWO MINUTES was all it took yesterday noon for seven heavily armed men to rob an Equitable-PCI Bank branch on Aurora Boulevard near Balete Drive in Quezon City.

In Caloocan City also at noon yesterday, four armed men robbed businesswoman Connie Co, who was about to deposit an undetermined amount of money at a Metrobank branch on Edsa.

The Equitable-PCI Bank robbers are members of the "Waray-Waray" gang, said Supt. Raul Medina, chief of the Central Police District Criminal Investigation Division.

Investigators said two of the suspects sneaked into the bank as the branch supervisor was about to enter the building.

Police said two other suspects followed and took the .38 revolver of security guard Joel Refugia. The other guard was taking his lunch upstairs, police said.

The rest of the suspects served as lookouts and waited in a dark blue Mitsubishi Adventure van (WKG-960). The suspects escaped toward Sta. Mesa in Manila on board the van, police said.

No shots were fired during the robbery, police said. The robbers were also not able to get into the bank's vault.

In Caloocan City, four armed men who were on board two motorcycles blocked Co's red Toyota Corolla (TLN-687) on B. Serrano Street near Edsa, police said.

The suspects then smashed a window of the car, took Co's bag containing the cash at gunpoint and sped off, police said.

Co told police she was supposed to deposit the money in a nearby branch of Metrobank.

EQUITABLE/A22

Ma. Theresa Carliso, Director of Technology for BayanTrade.com

"At BayanTrade.com, we have to continuously provide technology that makes sense, which means that it is relative to time."

"With Compaq and Microsoft, we have a company and a technology provider whose availability is also moving relative to business time."



"Thus, we would always have products that cover the technical infrastructure that a marketplace like us would need."

BayanTrade.com has every reason to be confident about getting their transactions up and moving quickly. On their first year of operation, their completed transactions stand at 5,000 purchase orders, served from the order down to delivery. As the premier B2B e-marketplace in the country, BayanTrade.com knows that this is no joke.

And that's where Compaq and Microsoft come in. Both mean serious business when it comes to providing e-commerce solutions. The powerful combination of Compaq ProLiant density-optimized servers and Microsoft server products such as Windows, SQL and Exchange 2000 Server for its operating system, database and messaging and collaboration requirements make it easy for BayanTrade.com to meet their customers' demands. Putting these two together enables it to simplify its IT tasks and position the customer's purchasing power at a higher level, resulting in the speedy process of delivering real-time transactions.

COMPAQ Microsoft

FRONTLINE PARTNERSHIP

Interested in a Compaq • Microsoft solution? Please call 848-1881 • 886-5658 or visit www.compaq.com.ph • www.microsoft.com/philippines

Wazzzzup?

8th day	YAMANI w/ BARBIE'S CRADLE	JULY 13/634.7696
AUDITORIUM	GREAT DIVIDE	
21 WEST AVE., QUEZON CITY	RUBBERBAND	374.2330/373.5574
BUMA	RETROSPECT	MULATTO
9395 KANAGONG ST. MAKATI	K A Z	JULY 20/896.2716
Café OVERDRIVE	L.O.C.	FREE ENTRANCE
1040 BUNG. P. MAKATI	FRIDAY, JULY 13	818.5555/813.1348
Compass	SERISIDE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
811 ALMAZAN LAS PINAS	STAY TUNED	801.7644
Compass	BARRICADE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
1191 ARQUEZA ST. MAKATI	KNIGHTS/HEARTBEAT	525.1474/525.4269
Compass	GOALKEYS	NO ENTRANCE FEE
411 BELMOROS ST. MAKATI	FREEZE	521.8143
Compass	MR. ROXY	NO ENTRANCE FEE
NOVALICHES Q.C.	FAT 16	936.9757
Friends	ICE BOX	SOLID
8 THE SQUARE	JULY 14/635.0279	
Yer's	ALTER EGO	NO ENTRANCE FEE
811 ALMAZAN LAS PINAS	(BOYS)	0917.7387303
KAMPO	MAGIC TOUCH	P 200 CONSUMABLE
811 ALMAZAN LAS PINAS	DEGREE/NXT PAGE	373.5110/373.7181
LIFE n' LIVE	AEGIS	P 150 CONSUMABLE
811 ALMAZAN LAS PINAS	CES & GRACE	373.2221/373.7183
MUSIC	THE GROOVE	FREE ENTRANCE
811 ALMAZAN LAS PINAS	PUZZLES	735.1280/735.1405
VERSE 2	CROSS TOWN	NO ENTRANCE FEE
811 ALMAZAN LAS PINAS		522.0429
FOREST AMADIS		P 25 UNLIMITED RICE
		400.7438/39

WEDNESDAY JULY 11 912-3923

Land swap considered for Mehan Garden

BY JEROME ANING
AND CYNTHIA BALANA

AN ALTERNATIVE to Mehan Garden as the site of the new campus of the City College of Manila (CCM) may have been found.

But conservationist and environmentalist groups seeking to save Mehan Garden would have to convince tourism officials to agree to swap for Mehan the campus of the old Ateneo de Manila in Intramuros, which is under the auspices of the Intramuros Administration, an agency

of the Department of Tourism.

Earlier, Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez formed a search team after City Hall and groups opposing the Mehan Garden construction agreed to look for an alternative site.

Lawyer Trixie Angeles of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts yesterday said the search team is expected to meet anytime this week with officials of the tourism department to discuss the land-swap possibility.

The team is composed of repre-

sentatives of the city government, the NCCA, the National Historical Institute, the National Museum and private conservationist and environmentalist groups.

Under the deal, the Ateneo site would be converted into a new campus for the CCM, and the DOT would develop Mehan Garden as a historical site for tourism.

"City officials and concerned sectors need not clash on this issue because they all share the common goal of wanting the best for the Manilaños by imparting knowledge,

the lessons of history and the gifts of our culture and heritage," Alvarez said.

Last week, Alvarez issued a cease and desist order on the P181-million MCC construction at Mehan Garden. The order cited violations of provisions of the environmental compliance certificate (ECC) issued earlier, particularly the cutting and pruning of trees at the Mehan Garden.

Groups opposed to the construction of the city college want the 24,600-square-meter Mehan Garden to remain a public park to preserve

its historical and cultural significance as the first botanical and zoological garden of Manila, established in 1858.

City Hall said building a school on Mehan Garden would create human activity that will enhance and preserve its significance. They said the old CCM campus, the former Philippine National Bank on Escolta in Sta. Cruz, is deteriorating.

Alvarez also expressed "oneness" with the non-government organizations that had vehemently opposed the construction of the

CCM and a parking facility at Mehan Garden. He stressed that "a historic site by itself serves as a powerful non-formal educational institution."

He also called on Congress to come up with a comprehensive national legislation listing sites to be protected, identifying protective measures and guidelines, providing incentives for the protection of historical sites and cultural landscapes, as well as outlining a national management system for the protected areas.

14-year-old Vietnamese boy dies in Tondo fall

BY JEROME ANING

A 14-YEAR-OLD Vietnamese who was apprehended for illegal fishing died after he reportedly fell off the Philippine Coast Guard building at the Parola Compound in Binondo, Manila Monday afternoon.

But police investigators have yet to rule out foul play in the death of Pham Minh Le because no one actually saw him fall off the PCG-National Capital Regional Office building about 6:45 p.m.

SPO1 William Gondranios said investigators found no footprints or skid marks on the floor and the ledges of the "rail-less" terrace from where Pham was supposed to have slipped.

Several people in the office saw Pham when he was already on the

ground, bleeding and squirming. They brought him to the Ospital ng Maynila where the boy died two hours later.

According to Coast Guard personnel interviewed by police, the boy either fell off accidentally or committed suicide. But SPO1 Gondranios said the boy could have been murdered.

Police learned that Pham was among nine Vietnamese caught fishing in Philippine waters near Corregidor Island on April 6.

The nine were arrested and detained at the PCG office for illegal fishing. The remaining fishermen are now awaiting repatriation.

Homicide police have asked the Vietnamese Embassy to allow them to conduct an autopsy on Pham's remains.

2 drunken men throw girl up in the air

TWO men are facing criminal charges before the Caloocan city prosecutor's office for nearly killing a 10-year-old girl by tossing her in the air for no apparent reason.

Police identified the suspects as Rolando Darden, 58, and Ernesto Quival, both residents of Caloocan.

For no apparent reason, a heavily

drunken Quival threw Melody Lemos in the air when he chanced upon her playing with other children in a pedicab in Tupda Village, Sangandaan, investigation showed.

When the girl tried to break free, Darden tripped her, police said.

Village watcher Enrique Padernal arrested the suspects.

Christian V. Esguerra

Life for rapist guard

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

A MALABON judge yesterday sentenced to life imprisonment a security guard for raping a housewife in front of her year-old son last year.

Judge Benjamin Aquino Jr. found Hansel Lagavista, 24, guilty of raping the 23-year-old victim in her house on June 3, 2000.

Lagavista was a security guard of Cosmos Bottling Corp. on MacArthur Highway, Barangay Potrero, Malabon.

The court ordered Lagavista to pay the victim P100,000 in damages.

According to court records, Lagavista sneaked into the woman's house and

raped her while her son was sleeping beside her.

The door was left open by the woman's husband when he left for work. Lagavista concealed his face with an undershirt and introduced himself to the woman as Jun Perez.

The woman was forced to give in to Lagavista when he threatened to kill her son with a knife.

But before he left, Lagavista uncovered his face upon the woman's request.

The victim later identified Lagavista in a police lineup as the one who had raped her.

In his defense, Lagavista insisted the woman agreed to have sex with him because they were allegedly lovers.

Sorry, but President Macapagal was very busy

IF she could go out to meet, and even shake hands, with Norberto Manero, how come she couldn't give protesting national athletes a few seconds of her time?

The caller, my favorite pundit, wasted no time. He promptly zeroed in on President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo who on Monday refused to dialogue with national athletes and a few self-styled leaders who marched to Malacañang.

The group wanted to ventilate its grievances and at the same time seek changes in the national sports leadership.

Main target was Philippine Sports Commissioner chair Carlos Tuason, an Erap Estrada appointee who managed to hold on mainly on the backing of his first cousin, Mike Arroyo, the President's husband.

Well, from the look of things, Tuason, using as hostage the Philippine participation in the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games, would not be yanked out despite an outrageous record.

Malacañang has made it known it would wait for the results of the forthcoming SEA Games before effecting changes in the national sports hierarchy.

Tuason, who together with POC president Celso Dayrit tried to stop the march to Malacañang, also succeeded in explaining that they have been attending to the needs of national athletes.

That's the main point that the

BARE
EYE

Recall
Trinidad



marchers wanted to contest.

Unfortunately, the President was obviously not in the mood to verify for herself the charges and the counter-charges.

She instead sent out an assistant to deal with the group.

For the record, it was the second straight time the President had snubbed the group that, this time, included the outspoken, very visible running priest Roberto Reyes.

First time out GMA sent out Renato de Villa to deal with the protesting national athletes.

De Villa listed the group's demands, promised prompt reforms that predictably were never carried out.

De Villa has since gotten sick and been replaced as executive secretary.

On Tuesday, President Macapagal fielded in an even lower-ranked assistant to meet the marchers.

Well, in fairness to the President, she did not have to offer an explanation for the latest snub.

Monday was a terribly busy day.

GMA honors ex-diplomat

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will confer the Gawad Mabini Award with the rank of Dakilang Kamanong on former Foreign Undersecretary Tomas R. Padilla tomorrow morning at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The award will be given to Padilla for his "edifying example, devotion to duty and integrity" during 40 years of service in the department.

Padilla is also being cited for promoting the national interest in his assignments and for advancing bilateral and international understanding as consul general in Chicago from 1971 to 1973, chargé d'affaires in Beijing in 1982, consul general in Kobe from 1982 to 1986, and ambassador to Seoul from 1986 to 1990.

Padilla occupied other diplomatic posts in Bern, London, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Madrid and held other ranking positions in the home office before his retirement in 1997.

Project HOPE

THE CARDIAC Rehabilitation Section of the Philippine Heart Center is expanding its services by putting up a cardiac rehabilitation program specifically for heart failure patients.

The program, called Project HOPE (Health Optimization through Prevention and Exercise), is designed to address the needs of this high-risk group through exercise training, health education and improving quality of life.

Patients attend closely supervised exercise and group discussions twice a week for two months, with quarterly follow-ups for one year.

Project HOPE, to be launched formally on July 19 at the MAP Hall of the Philippine Heart Center, is headed by Dr. Marisa P. Joson. For further information, contact the Cardiac Rehabilitation Section at 925-24-01 (office hours only).

Equitable ...

From page A21)

Both bank robberies happened as a number of the members of Metro Manila's police force were deployed in key areas of the metropolis to ensure the security during disgraced President Estrada's arraignment on plunder charges.

Many police officers from the CPD and the Northern Police District were deployed at the Sandiganbayan in Fairview, Quezon City where the arraignment took place

6 nabbed for highway rob

BY DAVE M. VERIDIANO

POLICE intelligence agents yesterday arrested six suspected members of a big hijacking syndicate who intercepted a cargo truck loaded with about P5 million worth of computer chips in Cabuyao, Laguna last month.

The suspects were caught by agents of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) who had been working on the case since the hijacking took place on June 16 in Barangay Pulo, Cabuyao.

Chief Supt. Nestorio Gualberto, CIDG director, identified the suspects as Lam Wing Yeung, alias Mr. Lim, a Hong Kong national and the alleged leader-financier of the group; Rolando Relador, Emiliano Santiago, Ben Morales, his wife Teresa, and their son Ben Jr.

Gualberto said the suspects were

all responsible for the hijacking of a delivery truck containing the computer parts owned by Fastech Philippines Products (FPP).

Police said the delivery truck (WLT-520) was carrying 52 boxes of computer chips when the armed men intercepted it on the highway in Cabuyao.

Helper Joseph Coralde resisted and was killed while driver Roger Mailong was able to escape.

Gualberto said Mailong reported the hijacking to the police and positively identified Relador, Oscar Cañon Sr. and Ernesto Dordas as the ones who hijacked the truck.

Cañon Sr. and Dordas remain at large.

Police learned that the three men were all security guards at FPP and employed by Lockheed Security Agency on Quezon Avenue in

Quezon City.

Police caught Relador in Barangay Pulo Alto in Calamba. Four handguns were seized from him.

Later, police arrested Santiago in an entrapment operation in Lagro, Quezon City. Santiago allegedly bought the FPP products.

The elder Morales was also arrested, as well as his wife Teresa and their son Ben Jr.

CIDG agents said they recovered several boxes of electronic circuit devices and transistors manufactured by different electrical and semiconductor companies. These were packed in big boxes and were to be flown to Hong Kong.

The CIDG agents arrested Lam Wing Yeung, said to be the gang's financier. Police said Lam, during interrogation, admitted his involvement in the sale of the stolen items.

Pasay man shoots girlfriend's suitor

JEALOUSY on Monday night led a man to shoot and seriously wound another man who had been courting the suspect's girlfriend in Pasay City.

Police identified the victim as Elmer Maceda, a resident of 2555 M. De la Cruz St., Pasay City. Maceda sustained several gunshot wounds from a .9 mm pistol and was brought to the Pasay City General Hospital, where he is in serious

condition.

Maceda's attacker, a certain Buboy Palacol, who is said to be a toughie in his neighborhood, escaped after the shooting, police said.

SPO1 Reynaldo Aguba, Pasay City police homicide investigator, said the shooting happened at 10:15 a.m. just a few meters away from Maceda's house. He said Buboy Palacol approached Maceda, who was on his

way home, and without any word repeatedly shot him.

Aguba said Maceda's persistent courting of Buboy's girlfriend, who was identified only as Engeng, apparently triggered the shooting.

The policeman said Maceda had just visited Buboy's girlfriend when he was shot.

Police are still looking for Buboy Palacol. Nelson F. Flores

1-M signature campaign against ROTC ...

(From page A21)

desperate attempts to preserve the military institution in its present form."

In Davao, militant groups also staged protests against ROTC. The most recent was the walkout of about 400 cadets from the Ateneo de Davao University on Sunday.

Ariel Casilao, Anakbayan vice president for Southern Mindanao, said ROTC no longer serves its purpose and has a corrupting influence on training officers and members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Another group, the Youth Solidarity Davao (YS), said in a statement that ROTC has become a milking cow for military officials and trainers.

In a manifesto of unity, convenors of Abolish! described ROTC as "rotten to the core," "corrupt" and "fascist."

The deaths of University of Sto. Tomas student Mark Welson Chua and De La Salle student Seth Lopez are "proof that the program breeds a culture of violence and fascism," the convenors said.

Chua was killed allegedly for exposing anomalies at the UST ROTC

office. Chua's exposé led to the relief of the UST ROTC commandant and his men.

Lopez died while undergoing ROTC training a few years ago.

Retired Capt. Dan Vizmanos—chair of the Samahang mga Ex-Detainees Para sa Amnestsya (Selda) and one of the supporters of Abolish!—urged the government to conduct a thorough study of the abolition of the course.

"There is no more need for this course," Vizmanos said. "In the first place, the reason why it was created under the 1935 National Defense Act was because of the external threat present before World War II."

But with the threats no longer there, Vizmanos said, it is time for the government to scrap the program.

But Delia Moradas, Department of Science and Technology director for Southern Mindanao, believed the ROTC should be turned into an elective course.

"If they (students) really want to be in the military, then they can take it," she said.

Moradas said the government should also propose a science and technology subject as an alternative to ROTC. With reports from Ayan C. Mellejor and Joel B. Escovilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, July 11, 2001
14th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Gen 41:55-57; 42:5-7, 17-24
Gospel: Mt 10:1-7

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority over the unclean spirits to drive them out and to heal every disease and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first Simon, called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew, the tax collector; James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon, the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, the man who would betray him.

Jesus sent these twelve on mission with the instruction: "Do not visit pagan territory and do not enter a Samaritan town. Go instead to the lost sheep of the people of Israel."

Go and proclaim this message: The kingdom of heaven is near."

Commentary

Today's reading is the beginning of the mission discourse that covers the whole of chapter ten. As in chapter five, the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew uses solemn language. Representatives are chosen from the whole of Israel. Just as there are twelve tribes in Israel, so there are twelve apostles. To highlight their prominence they are mentioned individually by name. Matthew makes it a point to emphasize that they are disciples of the master. The same authority that Jesus received from his Father is conferred on them. They in their turn have to learn to redefine authority in the same way Jesus did. It is the authority of the kingdom of God, the authority of God's compassion.

We thank you Father for having chosen us to be disciples of Jesus. Teach us to listen to his Word and to remain faithful to our mission.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cnl.net; Websites: <http://www.bible.claret.org> (Claretian Publications Inc.) & <http://missionaries.claret.org> (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES)—Evident premeditation—For evident premeditation to aggravate a crime, there must be proof, as clear as the evidence of the crime itself, of the following elements: (1) the time when the offender determined to commit the crime; (2) an act manifestly indicating that he clung to his determination; and (3) sufficient lapse of time, between determination and execution, to allow himself to reflect upon the consequences of his act. For this circumstance to be appreciated, there must be direct evidence showing a plan or preparation to kill or proof that the accused meditated and reflected upon his decision to kill the victim. Here, there is no such determination of calculation and previous resolution on the part of the three accused. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Quisumbing, Second Division, People v. Baltar, Jr., G.R. No. 125306, December 11, 2000.]

DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

Assunta de Rossi three times a daring young lady

ASSUNTA de Rossi was initially hesitant to shed her clothes and do daring scenes in "Red Diaries." But the script, and the fact that the director is **Maryo J. de los Reyes**, convinced her to do what her three roles called for.

"Red Diaries" launches the 18-year-old Filipino-Italian to solo stardom. In the movie, three women, all played by Assunta, write about the highs and lows of their lives. Susanna is a two-timing mistress; Cara is a prodigal daughter who's a seminarian's sexual fantasy; and Lucila is the battered wife of a policeman.

Is she comfortable with sexy roles?

"I didn't take off my clothes in this movie for the sake of being called a sex goddess or screen siren," Assunta says. "The script calls for nude and sexy scenes. It's not easy doing those scenes. But I hope people will remember my effort in this movie and not just the sexy scenes."

Assunta's leading men in "Red Diaries" are **Carlos Morales**, **Anton Bernardo**, **Dante Gomez** and **Jam Melendez**.

Jaya's latest

WHY was Jaya's new album, "Unleashed," stalled for more than a year before it was released by Viva Records?

Jaya herself explains that seven

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

tracks in the album were produced by **Pat Castillo**. But after the songs were recorded, they had to stop since she and Pat got busy with other things.

But recently, Jaya finally released "Unleashed," complete with



JAYA. An album and a concert for "Unleashed."

12 tracks, including three revivals.

Although the recording game is nothing new to her—her self-titled debut album was multi-platinum—Jaya says she is excited about her latest album, her sixth from Viva Records.

"I have both Tagalog and English tunes in this new album, but the music has changed quite a bit from my earlier albums," she explains. "The instrumentation is fuller. If you will notice, the funky groove in some of the English songs are reminiscent of club music, the current rage in the world music scene."

Gerard Salonga worked on the arrangement for her version of **John Lennon's "Love."**

"The fact that we had more time to choose more songs for the album made me more satisfied about the final product," Jaya offers. "The recording lull turned out to be an advantage for me and the people who worked behind the album."

Jaya holds a major concert, also titled "Unleashed," at the **Araneta Coliseum** on July 28.

Wishing they were Charlene

HERE'S a text message apparently from women who have been fantasizing about being **Charlene Gonzales**.

"I have news! I'm preggy. Ang hirap pala, lalo na kasi malamang twins. Daming 'di mo magawa."

Naninibago nga ako eh. Buti na lang very supportive si Aga.
Dream on, girls.

Ovation for Gary V in Martin's show

BELIEVE it or not, but **Gary Valenciano** got a standing ovation in **Martin Nievera's** concert at Onstage in Greenbelt last Friday night.

We received a text message from Martin, who thanked us for our review of his concert series (Showbiz Tidbits, July 6, 2001).

Martin said we should have seen instead the July 6 show, which marked his 19th year in the business.

"You would have loved it. It was the celebration of my 19th year and it was star-studded. Gary V entered late. I had a deal with the crowd. I said as soon as he (Gary) walks in, everyone stand and scream."

"He arrived and walked into a standing ovation! He was so red. I escorted him to his seat and during the last two encores, I pulled him onstage and had him imitate me back. *Parang* duel."

"Sana you saw it. Then he ended the show with me, all the way to the closing of the curtain. *Galing talaga*. It was very touching *nga*. Wish you were there again. A night to remember *talaga*."

Martin will have two more shows at Onstage on July 19 and 26.



DE ROSSI. Bares on the big screen but not to be called a sex goddess.

'SWORDFISH'

Over-the-top techno thriller

BY RUBEN M. CRUZ JR.

THE OPENING scene of "Swordfish" finds John Travolta in an L.A. coffee shop smoking a very expensive cigar as he pontificates on the deteriorating quality of American films. He proceeds to pay homage to Sydney Lumet's "Dog Day Afternoon," saying it is easily the acclaimed director's best work and inarguably Al Pacino's best film.

The only problem is, he says, "Dog Day" didn't push the outside of the envelope. The film was afraid to explore Sonny's (Pacino's character) homosexuality and it had a cop-out ending because the character dies in the end. Travolta argues that if Sonny started killing his hostages—even just one hostage—the cops would have listened. He could have walked away with the money and gotten his lover the sex transplant, for which he robbed that bank in the first place.

Of course, Travolta fails to mention that "Dog Day" was based on a true story. But after he finishes his brief monologue, I get his point about pushing the outside of the envelope.

What follows is probably the most riveting explosion scene in any contemporary film—a slow motion, 360-degree pan that sends a shock wave of flying bodies, cars and whatever else there was on the screen.

The fact that director Dominic Sena and writer Skip Woods thought nothing of giving the film's piece de resistance right away is perhaps a testament to their confidence in "Swordfish." It's as if they're saying, "You like that? Stick around, there's more." And they spend the next hour and a half trying to prove they're right by stringing together one action highlight after another, offering a virtual smorgasbord of adrenaline fixes.

Intricate subplots

This is the kind of over-the-top guy flick that made "Die Hard" so entertaining to watch. The film's narrative suffers from a credibility problem typical of its genre, but then again, it's precisely the out-of-this-world-ness that is its selling point.

I mean, no one really believes that John McClane could be a victim of terrorists thrice over—unless of course he lived in Basilan—but we were willing to be gullible for the sake of "Die Hard" II and III. "Swordfish" requires a similar investment.

The plot revolves around Gabriel Shear (Travolta), a patriotic super criminal working for a covert organization headed by a US senator

(Sam Shepard in a very short role). Shear is planning an ambitious bank heist that would net him a secret government slush fund worth \$9.5 billion -- money he intends to use to wage war against anti-American terrorists.

Although Travolta's opening spiel showed some of the promise of a Vincent Vega (his character in "Pulp Fiction"), Shear is actually more akin to the egocentric but charming villains he played in "Broken Arrow" and "Face Off."

Yes, Travolta is supposed to be the villain here but the intricate subplots manage to keep you second-guessing about the true nature of the characters in the film. This is definitely not a case of what you see is what you get.

In "Swordfish" almost everyone is not who he or she seems to be, and Shear's Machiavellian purpose makes him an enigma, something that Travolta acts out convincingly.

Likeable baddie

And the thing with Travolta is, the bad guy is not really such a bad guy when he's playing him. In "Broken Arrow," for instance, I wanted him to beat Christian Slater. Travolta's magnetic personality makes for a very persuasive and likeable bad guy. (As always, there are exceptions. I wanted everyone obliterated in the fiasco that was "Battlefield Earth," including Travolta.)

"Swordfish" takes on its techno thriller mantle early in the film. In order to pull off the robbery, Shear and company would not only need to break into a bank but also hack into its computer to get the money into their offshore accounts (is this familiar?). Actually, the computer lingo sounds better. "Construct a worm program, pop the firewall, upload the Trojan horse and download the funds." I believe that's how Shear puts it.

He entrusts the task of signing up the world's best computer hacker to his girl Ginger, portrayed by Halle Berry with the pizzazz of a street prostitute plying her trade in front of Malate church.

Berry is shown in a lot of skimpy outfits and even goes topless in one scene, but that is not how she is able to recruit Stan Jobson (Hugh Jackman).

Stan wants nothing to do with computers after spending two years in prison for destroying an online FBI Big Brother program. But Ginger dangles an irresistible bait—the chance to regain custody of his only child who is living with Stan's porn-star ex-wife and her porn-filmmaker lover.

Handsome hacker

Jackman is probably the best looking hacker we've ever seen, I kid you not. Those noisy girls behind me (you know who you are) just can't get

enough of the Wolverine actor. Stan being a hacker, there are naturally several scenes showing him frenetically punching into computer keys, and one of the girls behind me blurted out, "He makes typing look so sexy!" Computer nerds beware. Typing can be a come-on.

Sena, who directed the Nicolas Cage-Angelina Jolie starrer "Gone in 60 Seconds," shows he is a master at lacing action films with MTV styling. There's not much logic behind the car chases, gunfights and explosions, but boy do they look pretty.

Woods' screenplay, which zigzags from one plot line to the next and jumps from one time frame to another, helps the director keep the pacing tight. And his snappy dialogue complements the film's panache.

"Swordfish" boasts of an excellent cast but that is also its bane, as it under-utilizes gifted actors like Shear (who's also a Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and a noted director), Berry (Golden Globe best actress) and Don Cheadle (last seen in "Traffic") who plays an FBI agent hot on the trail of Shear and Stanley.

This is yet again another cop role for Cheadle who still manages to give to a very familiar role something we haven't seen from him before. This guy is a Morgan Freeman in the making, if he's not one already. He needs some film leads and not just the straight-to-HBO variety.

Also in the film is soccer star-turned actor

Vinnie Jones, used mostly as a decoration playing Shear's main goon. I know Jones can't do much aside from playing tough and being stoic, but you have to have seen him in the Guy Ritchie films "Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels" and "Snatch" in order to appreciate how gifted a baddie he can be.

Overall, though, "Swordfish" delivers the promise of its trailer. It is quite fun to watch. And you only need a movie ticket to see it. No passwords required.



WHAT YOU see is not what you get from stars Halle Berry, Hugh Jackman.

Tessie at 20

(From page A26)

another. That's why I'm trying to be careful about myself and my health, because I have friends who died young.

Did you suffer mid-life crisis?

I did. At *bumabalik-balik pa rin* 'yan up to now. *Isang libro 'yan. Mahaba yan.* Before *kasi*, the meaning of life wasn't clear to me. Now I know the real meaning of life is really balance. Balance of work, family and friends, and all the little things—looking at the sunset, smelling the flowers, seeing what a nice day it is, despite the pollution and the traffic.

Who are your role models?

Mother Theresa. Oprah (Winfrey). I also admire my mom and my mother-in-law. Mrs. EJ Pullin is now 87 years old and still well. But she doesn't want to travel anymore that's why she hasn't been to the Philippines.

She's always full of joy and is very healthy. And she's living alone in England. She writes us wonderful letters every week on how the seasons change and how she keeps busy gardening, riding a bus or going to the supermarket. If I can only reach 70 years old, *masaya na ko*.

What did you learn from Ka Roger as an Englishman?

His maturity. That I have to learn to

trust our children, that they will do well even without us around.

And he always says that as a married couple, we have to do things together. He doesn't want "Okay, I'll just meet you in the restaurant or see you at the party." He wants us to go together. He can't leave ahead of me. He's really my guiding force and my pillar of strength. And since we're also friends, I can also tell him everything, from problems with work, to the maid or the driver.

He has very good insight even if I'm the one who's always confrontational, reactionary and emotional. He always tells me to relax.

What did he learn from you?

He says I have terrific work ethics and I work very hard. After "Teysi ng Tahanan," he didn't feel I slowed down. I did a lot of other things for our town in Catbalogan. I am the president of the Catbaloganon Foundation and we do projects. I go to my hometown twice a year.

After 20 years in the business, what have you learned?

I've learned that you're only as good as your last achievement, and that this career will not last forever, and that you will not find perfect happiness from fame

and fortune. The wellspring of happiness comes from other sources, like old friends.

Who are your bestfriends?

Angie Lacson is working for a corporation. *Doctora* Cris Villanueva is a 70-year-old obstetrician-gynecologist, and Bobby Caballero used to work with me in advertising. We were copywriters.

You're a bigger star than your mom ever was. What does she say about that?

She's proud to be the mother of Tessie Tomas. But I never really dreamt I would go this far and I would become big. When I was in advertising, I just wanted to put up my own ad agency one day.

What can you say about the political scene now?

I'm part of the *Artista sa Pagbabago* movement. I'm very sad that Edsa III had to happen. I'm very disenchanted, worried and frustrated about the Abu Sayyaf attack. When will all of this end? I have my sympathy for GMA.

I hope that in this lifetime, I can make a difference in the lives of the people as an entertainer, without entering politics. I think my best service to the community would be not as a politician but as an active NGO participant. *Louie C. Camino, Leah Salterio*

Listen to reel music...
Feel the movie coming back...

Joey's Reel Rhythms

featuring
Mood Swings
at
Greenbelt Theater Lobby
July 4, 11, 18 & 25 - 6:00 PM

as presented by

SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOR 417868	1 FINAL FANTASY 2 ALONG CAME A SPIDER 3 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 4 TOMB RAIDER 5 DRIVEN 6 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 7 AMORSEKO 8 SWORD FISH
SM CITY NORTH EDSA 519462	1 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 2 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 3 ATLANTIS 4 SWORD FISH 5 ALONG CAME A SPIDER 6 FINAL FANTASY 7 DRIVEN 8 TOMB RAIDER 9 MILA 10 AMORSEKO 11 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 12 ONSAHAN
SM CENTERPOINT 714922-7151416	1 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 2 ALONG CAME A SPIDER 3 SWORD FISH 4 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 5 DRIVEN 6 ATLANTIS 7 TOMB RAIDER 8 FINAL FANTASY 9 MILA 10 AMORSEKO
SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9330749	1 ONSAHAN 2 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 3 SWORD FISH 4 DRIVEN 5 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 6 ALONG CAME A SPIDER 7 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 8 TOMB RAIDER 9 PANGAKO IKAW LANG 10 MILA 11 FINAL FANTASY 12 AMORSEKO
SM CITY MANILA 9230340	1 FINAL FANTASY 2 TOMB RAIDER 3 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 4 DRIVEN 5 ALONG CAME A SPIDER 6 SWORD FISH 7 AMORSEKO 8 EVOLUTION 9 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 10 MILA 11 ATLANTIS 12 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
SM MEGAMALL 6311911 / 6324901	1 TOMB RAIDER 2 ALONG CAME A SPIDER 3 DRIVEN 4 SWORD FISH 5 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 6 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 7 ONSAHAN 8 MILA 9 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 10 FINAL FANTASY 11 ATLANTIS 12 AMORSEKO
SM TUTUBAY 2514302	1 DRIVEN 2 DR. DOOLITTLE 2 3 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG 4 AMORSEKO

SM CITY SOUTH MALL
806088 / 8060782
1 AMORSEKO
2 TOMB RAIDER
3 DRIVEN
4 DR. DOOLITTLE 2
5 ONSAHAN
6 ATLANTIS
7 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
8 FINAL FANTASY
9 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
10 SWORD FISH

SM GUADALUPE COM'L
8820985
1 AMORSEKO
2 DRIVER
3 PANGAKO IKAW LANG

SM CEBU
2310815
1 ATLANTIS
2 GET OVER IT
3 PANGAKO IKAW LANG
4 SWORD FISH
5 TOMB RAIDER
6 ACCIDENTAL SPY
7 SPOT
8 ATLANTIS

SM ILOILO
330442
1 SWORD FISH
2 CLOSED
3 EVOLUTION
4 ACCIDENTAL SPY
5 SPOT
6 TOMB RAIDER
7 CLOSED
8 ATLANTIS

SM PAMPANGA
710895
1 SWORD FISH
2 ATLANTIS
3 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
4 TOMB RAIDER
5 PANINDA
6 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG

SM SUCAT
1034075
1 TOMB RAIDER
2 SWORD FISH
3 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG

SM DAYAO
1 SOON TO OPEN
2 6 STATE-OF-THE-ART MOVIE THEATERS

THX **DOLBY** **DTS** **SDDS**

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING
YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729-7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

GLORIETTA 1
1 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
2 DR. DOOLITTLE 2
3 DRIVEN
4 FINAL FANTASY

GLORIETTA 4
1 FINAL FANTASY
2 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
3 DR. DOOLITTLE 2
4 ATLANTIS

GREENBELT
5 SWORD FISH
6 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
7 DRIVEN
8 ATLANTIS

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 DR. DOOLITTLE 2
2 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 FINAL FANTASY
4 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
5 DRIVEN
6 MARTIN NIEVERA LIVE!
July 13 & 14 9PM

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
2 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
3 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
4 (DOLBY) ALONG CAME A SPIDER
5 (DOLBY) TOMB RAIDER
6 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
7 (DOLBY) SWORD FISH
8 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
9 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

COTESCO CINEMA
City (Manila) tel 734.8588
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
2 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
3 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
4 (DOLBY) ALONG CAME A SPIDER
5 (DOLBY) TOMB RAIDER
6 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
7 (DOLBY) SWORD FISH
8 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
9 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna) tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
4 (DOLBY) ALONG CAME A SPIDER
5 (DOLBY) CITY OF SINS
6 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
7 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
8 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7393
1 (DOLBY) CITY OF SINS
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
4 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
2 (DOLBY) PANINDA
3 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
4 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
5 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
6 (DOLBY) APOY SA KARAGATAN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
4 (DOLBY) PANINDA

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Binan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
2 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
3 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
4 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
5 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

Olivarez Los Baños
(Binan) tel (049) 536.5101
1 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
2 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
3 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
4 (DOLBY) OLIVAREZ TAGAYTAY
tel (046) 413.0311
5 (DOLBY) EVOLUTION
6 (DOLBY) PANINDA

Morales Cinema
(Binan) tel (049) 511.9736
1 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4608
1 (DOLBY) MILA
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 (DOLBY) APOY SA KARAGATAN
2 (DOLBY) PANINDA
3 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
2 (DOLBY) TOMB RAIDER
3 (DOLBY) PANINDA
4 (DOLBY) SWORD FISH

Berma
tel 879.2168
1 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
2 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269
1 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
4 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
4 (DOLBY) SWORD FISH

***Movies are subject to change without prior notice**

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
2 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7808
1 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
2 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
1 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
2 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO

Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 (DOLBY) DRIVEN
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
4 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215
1 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
2 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO
3 (DOLBY) ALONG CAME A SPIDER
4 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
5 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN

New Divisoria Mall
CINEMA tel 244.4619
1 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
2 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
3 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
4 (DOLBY) RESERVE
5 (DOLBY) RESERVE

Baclaran LRT
CINEMA tel 512.0125
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
2 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
3 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
4 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY) LUV TEXT
2 (DOLBY) TOMB RAIDER

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
2 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
3 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 851.7864
1 (DOLBY) PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
2 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 (DOLBY) FINAL FANTASY
2 (DOLBY) PANGAKO IKAW LANG
3 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO

THX **DOLBY** **DTS** **SDDS**

PERL LIKE A STAR

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
State-Of-The-Art-Cinemas
e-mail: htc@robinsonsmovie.com
http://www.robinsonsmovie.com

NOW SHOWING

GALLERIA
621-1115 TO 16 / 633-7441 loc. 193
1 DRIVEN
2 FINAL FANTASY
3 DR. DOOLITTLE
4 SWORD FISH
5 DRIVEN
6 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
7 TOMB RAIDER
8 PANGAKO IKAW LANG
9 ATLANTIS
10 AMORSEKO

NOVALICHES
687-7945 loc. 47
1 SWORD FISH
2 SOON TO OPEN
3 PANGAKO IKAW LANG
4 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
5 DRIVEN
6 AMORSEKO
7 FINAL FANTASY
8 DR. DOOLITTLE

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453
1 TOMB RAIDER
2 EVOLUTION
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
4 ANGEL EYES
5 CITY OF SIN
6 MILA

SOON TO OPEN

METRO EAST

ILOILO

SAN FERNANDO PAMPANGA

THX **DOLBY** **DTS** **SDDS**

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE
ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2 TOMB RAIDER
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DOLBY) DRIVEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS) FINAL FANTASY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS) SWORD FISH
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY) ALONG CAME SPIDER
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY) AMORSEKO
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY) ONSAHAN
FIESTA CARNIVAL CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

MANILA

EASTERN
MAXIM CLOSED
MIRAMAR SENSUAL / SECRET GAMES
ODEON DRIVEN
ODEON-2 ALONG CAME SPIDER
ROBEN AMORSEKO
TANDEM-1 ONE NIGHT AT MC COO'S
TANDEM-2 PANINDA
TIMES 15 MINUTES / ATTACK FORCE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1 SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2 KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3 CLOSED
ACT-4 CLOSED
CORONET-2 AMORSEKO
QUEZON-1 AMORSEKO
REMAR AMORSEKO
REMAR-2 PANINDA

CUBAO

OCEAN SUPERAMA BABALNG PUTIK
OCEAN CINEMA-A PANABLA
OCEAN CINEMA-B CRISELDA

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL 635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1 DR. DOOLITTLE 2
CINEMA-2 FINAL FANTASY

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST (681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1 MILA
CINEMA-2 ACCIDENTAL SPY
CINEMA-3 AMORSEKO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) TOMB RAIDER
CINEMA-5 (DTS) DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
CINEMA-6 ONSAHAN
CINEMA-7 PANINDA
CINEMA-8 ATLANTIS
CINEMA-9 (DTS) DR. DOOLITTLE 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL) DRIVEN
CINEMA-11 (SDDS) FINAL FANTASY
CINEMA-12 ALONG CAME SPIDER
CINEMA-14 SWORDFISH
CINEMA-15 PANGAKO, IKAW LANG

LORES

CINEMA-2 CLOSED
CINEMA-3 CLOSED

POWER PLANT CINEMA

CINEMA-1 ALONG CAME A SPIDER
CINEMA-2 ATLANTIS
CINEMA-3 DRIVEN
CINEMA-4 FINAL FANTASY
CINEMA-5 DR. DOOLITTLE 2
CINEMA-6 SWORD FISH

UNIWIDE METROMALL

(LAS PINAS)
CINEMA-1 SPOT
CINEMA-2 COLLEGE GIRL
CINEMA-4 MILATA

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)
CINEMA-1 TOO MUCH FLESH
CINEMA-2 VALENTINE
CINEMA-4 UHAW NA HATOP

A 24

MARTINEZ

Irreverence is Leo's game

WHETHER throwing pot shots at politicians and other powers-that-be, cracking a naughty joke and dropping a punch line, irreverence is Leo Martinez's game.

As Congressman Manhik Manog, Leo's unusual intonation has caught the fancy of radio announcers who mimic his Batangueño accent (he hails from Balayan, Batangas) on the air.

As Uncle Leo in the popular Ponkana commercial, he is doting, lovable and a friend to kids.

Leo can be anything and gets away with it. His secret is his ability to inject wit into an otherwise colorless line, as seen in his current shows, "Idol Ko Si Kap" (Saturdays, 7-8 p.m., GMA 7) and "Ispup" (Saturdays, 8-9 p.m., ABC-5).

On his own, Leo has novel ideas about making the country a better place to live in. The seasoned theater actor has come up with a book of monologues through the Actors Workshop, for men, women and in-between.

Leo sifted through scripts from the US and asked the Screenwriters' Guild of the Philippines to adapt them to local situations and ended up with 100 five-minute monologues on anything under the sun.

The idea is for this art form to gain more following by taking it out of theater and bringing it to laymen. A Makati restaurant and Malate bar have agreed to carry the book in their place. Leo is looking for more private firms to support his project.

"Instead of asking beauty contestants inane questions, why not ask them what they are proudest of in their place? Stress the positive so we can be proud of our country. Noontime show and talk show hosts can include a 'Maipagmalaki Ko' portion in their interviews," says Leo.

Channel 7, in fact, has expressed interest in the actor's brainchild. So how about giving this, and other "Leoisms" a try?

LOUIE'S CINEMA
LUCAS FILM
THX
NOW SHOWING

FINAL FANTASY: The Spirits Within
(PG-13 RT - 1-46)
Fantasy-Action-Adventure
Starring:
Ming-Na Wen
James Woods
Ving Rhames
Steve Buscemi
Donald Sutherland
July 11 - Wednesday
6:00 PM - Final Fantasy
8:20 PM - Final Fantasy
10:40 PM - Final Fantasy
UPCOMING MOVIES
AT LOUIE'S THX:
JURASSIC PARK III
Bridgit Jones Diary
Moulin Rouge
How the Grinch Stole Christmas

High-end concepts in film viewing

REMEMBER when you could go to the movies for only a few pesos? These days, you have to plunk down up to P120 for a single screening in one of those snooty movie palaces with plush carpets and seats, and sound systems so acute that they can virtually pick up the sound of one hand clapping.

But we aren't applauding the way that moviegoing has turned expensive and even prohibitive of late. Which is why we're boggled by the report that Hong Kong has come up with the most expensive movie admission prices in the world—would you believe HK\$175 per seat in two ultra-special screening rooms?!

To make the whopping price a good deal, the two-of-a-kind screening rooms have only 16 seats each, and viewers get free popcorn and soft drinks from waiters who are at their beck and call. How posh can you get?

HK\$175 is equivalent to US\$22, which in turn is worth something like P1,100. Would you spend a thousand bucks to see a film, even in the plushiest and most exclusive of theaters?

If enough people here say yes, then the high-end concept could have a future in the Philippines, as well. As for the original Hong Kong venues, they've been fully booked until the end of the month!

Truth to tell, however, the most exclusive movie theater we've patronized is a small theater (only 50 seats) in Paris, which has only one screening per day: at midnight.

The *tres exclusive* theater is an art house that caters to a very chic clientele of film buffs who specialize in the obscure gems of prewar French cinema.

Why only one screening? There aren't many fans of that kind of cinema around. Why at midnight? The owner has a day job. OK—but when does he get to sleep?!

New TV series

STARTING July 20 at 9 p.m. AXN TV will screen "Seven Days," a series about a CIA agent who has the unique ability of travelling through time to stop world catastrophes before they happen. It takes him seven days to undo those catastrophic events, hence the show's title.

The sci-fi thriller topbills Jonathan Lapaglia as Frank Parker, and Don Franklin and Justina Vail also play important roles.

But the real star in this production is the Sphere, a huge and complex device that uses

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

alien technology. How does it work? Here goes: "The Sphere generates a 'temporal displacement field' by altering an object's gravitational polymetry, so the object shifts in time. As the Sphere generates its temporal compensating wave, the pilot feels like he's being electrocuted and sees the events that have happened flash before him in reverse.

"Due to the instability of the timing device, landings are very uncertain. So, the pilot has to actually maneuver the Sphere and maintain points of alignment in three dimensions."—Well, if you say so!

"Seven Days" is telecast every Friday at 9 p.m.

TV treats

ON THE National Geographic Channel, "Tomorrow's World" features amazing new inventions and technological marvels every Thursday at 9:30 p.m. This month, some of the

Eye-Popping Realism First Time Ever On Screen!
THE EPIC ADVENTURE BEGINS TODAY!

MTRCB RATING: PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

FINAL FANTASY
THE SPIRITS WITHIN
www.finalfantasy.com

Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

DISCOVER THE SECRET OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST MYSTERIES ADVENTURE, FUN & MAGIC. 2ND WEEK!

MTRCB RATING: G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED

ATLANTIS
THE LOST EMPIRE
Distributed by BUENA VISTA INTERNATIONAL thru COLUMBIA PICTURES

Yes! mag joins corporate show at Glorietta Center

SUMMIT Publishing's Yes! Magazine offers another sizzling issue this July as it features an in-depth and extensive story and never-before-seen photos of the very controversial Aga Muhlach and Charlene Gonzales wedding.

The wedding of the two stars is dubbed as the wedding of the year and Yes! Magazine offers a detailed account of the event, from the planning stage down to the actual wedding held in Baguio City.

Summit Publishing Inc. and Yes! Magazine joins Primetrade Asia Inc.'s The Corporate Show until today at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City.

The Corporate Show .01 aims to consolidate the advertising and marketing needs of corporations into one combined effort that enables corporations to establish a huge network of potential clients in a short period of time through the tested medium of the trade fair.

The event attracts a diverse and well-qualified market of customers from a variety of industries and backgrounds, all in one day and all in one place. It will support corporations in building strong relations with suppliers and potential clients through various activities in the three days that it will be held.

The Corporate Show .01 is presented by Philippine Daily Inquirer, Centrex Corporation and Philonline, with Club Panoly Resort Inc., Family First Inc., Canon Marketing (Philippines) Inc., and Asian Spirit.

Official radio stations are Citylite 88.3, Magic 89.9 WTM, Joey 92.3, 93.9 KCFM, 99.5 RT, 103.5 K-Lite and 105.1 Crossover.

SECOND WEEK! **HYPER-ELECTRIFYING ACTION**
THAT'S HOTTER THAN BURSTING FLAMES!

MTRCB RATING: R Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

JOHN TRAVOLTA
HUGH JACKMAN
HALLE BERRY
DON CHEADLE

Log on.
Hack in.
Go anywhere.
Steal everything.

SWORD FISH
PASSWORD ACCEPTED

VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
ROD Heyward: Swordfish www.operationswordfish.com

POWER PLANT
CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City Tel. No: 8981440-41

ALONG CAME A SPIDER - P 13 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20	ATLANTIS - GP 11:45, 1:45, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30	DRIVEN - P 13 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
FINAL FANTASY - GP 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50	DR. DOOLITTLE 2 - GP 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40	SWORD FISH - R 18 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4
OPENS JULY 18 (Wed.)

MTRCB RATING: PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
From the Critically Acclaimed Director of "CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON"

RIDE WITH THE DEVIL
A Film by ANG LEE

IN A NO-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH, YOU DIDN'T FIGHT FOR THE BLUE OR THE GRAY... YOU FOUGHT FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY.

SKEET ULRICH TOBEY MAGUIRE JEFFREY WRIGHT

Ang Lee ("The Ice Storm," "Sense and Sensibility" & "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon") once again takes audiences on a journey to a different time and place, and into his characters' internal conflicts. A cast of rising young stars portrays young Americans, striving to define themselves and the country they had always called home, amidst national turmoil. The screenplay for Ride with the Devil is adapted (by Lee's longtime collaborator, James Schamus) from Daniel Woodrell's novel Woe to Live On.

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
NOVA LICHES NOW

OPEN
with (8) State-of-the-art CINEMAS.

Avail of our FREE Movie Ticket Promo and our FREE PopCorn and Iced Tea Promo.

MTRCB RATING: PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

A KNOCKOUT MOVIE WITH A SURPRISE TWIST!

DON'T TELL OTHERS ABOUT THE ENDING

MORGAN FREEMAN MONICA POTTER

along came a spider

united international pictures VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

now showing

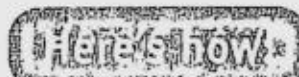
Globe Handyphone TOTAL ENTERTAINMENT



Catch the latest blockbusters...

get movie schedules...
find out the next feature films...
know the top ten must-see flicks...
and even reserve seats!

For everything you want to know on movies,
Globe is all you need.



Movie skeds
Key in ctcn and send to 2333.

Movie updates
Key in ent movies and send to 2333.

Ticket reservation*
Key in sureseats_(G4)_(cinema number)_(time)_(number of tickets)_send to 2333.
ex. sureseats_G4_1_06:00pm_2

Other entertainment services:

Star News
Key in ent news and send to 2333.

Gigs Tonight
Key in ent tonight and send to 2333.

Music Artists
Key in ent music and send to 2333.



Fee per message successfully sent:
P2.00 for Plan Subscribers
P2.50 for Prepaid Plus Subscribers

*(Ticket reservation is currently available at Glorietta 4.)

Names and images of selected artists are provided by, and used with permission from Sony Music Entertainment (Phil.), Inc.

sureseats my! yala

ClickTheCity.com

Globe
HANDYPHONE

Hotline 730-1000 / www.globe.com.ph

A 26

WEDNESDAY,
JULY 11, 2001

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Tessie T. after 20

HAS it been 20 years already?

"I think I have lived a charmed life," Tessie Tomas says. "I know I have talent, but I'm also super lucky in a sense that I got all the right breaks at the right time. I didn't have to look for it."

That talent and the right breaks pulled Tessie out of relative "obscurity" as an advertising executive and thrust her into the limelight as a writer and stand-up comedian who creates characters from her imagination and observations and makes those characters unforgettable.

Some of them are no longer in the limelight today, but they linger in the memory: Bonnie Buendia the bold star, Barbara Tengco the wife of the corrupt congressman, and most memorable of all, Meldita the imeldific lady who could cause audiences to bust their guts laughing and then also make them shed a tear or two.

Has it been 20 years since "Champoy?"

Ang sakit sa tenga, 'no? But I should be happy and grateful. I started "Champoy" in 1981. I was even telling myself, "Totoo ba itong bilang ko?"

So how would you describe the 20 years?

Glorious, wonderful, divine, very productive and profitable. This is such a fulfilling job.

What do you consider the highlight of those 20 years?

Definitely "Meldita." That was a turning point in my career and also the peak. Before her was Bonnie Buendia, which was a very difficult character.

After "Champoy," I had a very difficult one-woman show that launched me into the one-woman act which they were saying I pioneered. The project was "Miss Margarida's Way," the story of a deranged school teacher. I was giving a monologue for an hour and 45 minutes. One minute she is sane, the next minute she is lifting her skirt, teaching biology or touching her breast. At first, I didn't think I could do it. But director Tony Espejo challenged me to do it. Sa rehearsals pa lang, he was convincing me already to lift my skirt. He said we couldn't do the play unless I lifted my skirt.

Looking back, I kept on asking myself, "Paano ko nakaya 'yon?"

I also remember the struggle because that's when I had my nodules. I had to cut down on smoking until I was able to stop it completely. I would sleep early, no talking for two weeks, and then medication. My doctor said if my voice did not return after two weeks, I had to be operated on.

I was so terrorized because Sylvia La Torre told me, "Huwag mong ipapagalaw ang boses mo."

"Champoy," Bonnie Buendia, Meldita, all are in the league of stand-up comedy. Then I went back to TV via "Teyzie ng Tahanan" and "Abangan ang Susunod na Kabanata." Magkasabay 'yon and halos sabay din natapos after more than six years. After that was "Onli in the Pilipins."

Another high point, I would say, is "Compañero y Compañera" because I was made to do current affairs. It was a different format with Atty. Rene Cayetano. I didn't know I could do it at first and yet I warmed up to the role. That was very fulfilling.

Now it's "Feel at Home" which is basically also my concept of a lifestyle-oriented show. And there's "Eto na ang Susunod na Kabanata" which revived the old sitcom.

Sa personal life naman, my getting married to Roger (Pullin). It's been seven and a half years. We were married in April 1994.

How is the marriage?

Very good. I don't really like to use "very" dahil baka mausog. But when you're happy, you tell the whole world about it. And when you have lived with dysfunction and a lot of misery in your life, you're afraid to be happy. This you have to correct, because a healthy marriage is a happy marriage. That's what I have.

Roger is a wonderful man. But I also have to pat myself in the back because I changed a lot from my previous marriage. Sabi nga ng mga psychologists, paradigm shift daw ako. My attitude changed a lot, and I have hardly any expectations because when you don't expect, God shows you with what you want. With Roger, I learned how to give and take.

Before kasi, I was so self-centered. I was always putting career ahead of anything else. Masyado kong sinasamba ang career ko to the point that something else, includ-

ing myself, came last. That's not good. Now, I know how to balance.

It's work and co-existing with work is personal happiness.

What if you get more work now?

I won't accept it anymore. I've learned how to say no.

Actually, I turned down several offers.

Before I make a decision, I would always consult him (Roger), so it becomes like a conjugal decision and we will not blame each other in the end.

More than anything, Roger and I are friends. That's important.

How many years passed before you gave yourself another chance at love?

Thirteen years of being a single parent. But I'm very happy because I'm finally, after a long time, friends with my ex. We can talk healthily about our son.

How's your son Robin?

He is now in New York, taking up fashion design at Parson's School. That's what he wants. He gave up his job as art director at Ace Saatchi.

Was it hard allowing Robin to study in the US?

Ang hirap, the language of letting go. He left last January but I'm much better now. It helps that Roger is there and I have become more mature. I can also say this is also the best for both Robin and me because we were both too dependent on each other.

This is the time he wants, so why hold him back? He's 24. He should

'I was regressed before and I was told I was a cruel prince and I was killed. After that I was a soldier who killed and got killed. In both cases, I was a man. But take note, hindi ako tomboy. Huwag niyo kong intrigahin diyan'

learn to be more independent and fend for himself. I got married when I was 24.

When I was 10, I already knew how to commute. I would take the jeep to dzXL in Aduana (Intramuros) to join the soap opera contest. So why can't Robin do it on his own in New York?

Weren't you afraid to let Robin live alone in New York?

I've changed a lot also when it comes to those things. I also love New York. Again it's parental letting go. If you are not confident of letting go of your children when they're 18, something must be wrong with the quality of the parenting. You cannot be by their side all their life.

But if I can bring back the hands of time, I wish I could have given Robin more quality time. I should have thought that it's not just shopping, dining at fine restaurants or bringing him abroad. Because in all those times, I was always in a hurry trying to catch a meeting with a producer or run to an interview. The learning process for me was too long.

Robin followed in your footsteps in advertising. Why didn't he enter show biz?

Yes, he used to work as art director for Ace Saatchi. There were times he would say, "Parang gusto kong mag-ASAP. Nakakatuwa naman. Parang ang dali ng pera diyan. Mas mahirap itong ginagawa ko." But I would tell him, "You should have started younger."

But I'm glad he did not enter show biz. You're always scared when your child goes into the same field as you did.

It's been 20 years but how come you don't seem to have changed physically?

I haven't had a facelift yet.

Will you go to that extent?

If I am still on camera beyond 60 and I already look horrible, I will do it.

What changes happened to you as a professional?

I'm a bit more relaxed now. You didn't see me at my worst before when I was a worrier and hyper.

But being a workaholic I guess has become part of my character. You'd know that Tessie Tomas is sick when she speaks very slowly.

Even when I have two days free in my weekly schedule, I still find



TALENT WITH A DOUBLE T. The right breaks came at the right time for Tessie Tomas.

other things to do. I have to correct myself. I read books on voluntary simplicity, I meditate and go to Chakra (an energy center at Loyola Heights), but somehow, it's still an effort for me to slow down.

How late do you stay up?

I never go to bed beyond 12. That's the secret of staying young. For me, dapat 10 p.m. tulog na 'ko, especially if I have to be up by 6 or 7 a.m. the next morning for a taping.

What is your most relaxed hour?

I'm a morning person. Usually at breakfast, I'm still relaxed. After that, taka-taka-tak na 'ko.

But even my friends are telling

I'm still reading "The Courage to be Rich." I'm dreaming of one day writing a book or books. I know it will happen.

Who's the biggest influence in your life?

My mom, Laura Hermosa. She was my first tutor in show biz. She introduced me to show biz when I was 9.

What is the most important lesson she taught you?

The value of hard-earned money. That's why I learned how to save. In show biz, when it rains, it pours, but you have to learn how to save.

What are you still working to achieve?

Spiritual wisdom and depth. I have such a big spiritual thirst, but that's deep inside me. Even if you see me smile on TV and I'm trying to be always on top of the world, part of me wants to find time for my spirituality. There are still pangs of hunger to go to Tibet or fly off to India.

I took up hypnosis before and I was very much into the occult and astral projection. My hunger now is because of my cruel past. I was regressed before and I was told I was a cruel prince and I was killed. After that I was a soldier who killed and got killed. In both cases, I was a man. But take note, hindi ako tomboy. Huwag niyo kong intrigahin diyan.

Have you been asked to run for public office?

Madalas, pero hindi ko talaga hiling. But I must admit that if I didn't marry Roger, I would have gone into it. He really doesn't like politics. Priority ko ang asawa ko. Anything that will jeopardize or harm the marriage, I will definitely avoid. I know my priorities.

You know what his top priority is?

Music. But there was a time when we were talking about something and I told him, "I'm getting so nervous with you. I'm all alone here." Then he looked at me and said, "You're all that I want. You're all that I need."

Then I told him, "What about me? You're not all that I need?" But I was just kidding him because he started to get mushy. But I really almost cried when he said that.

What's the age gap between you and Roger?

Seven years. I'm 50 and he's 57. What are your best traits as a professional?

I work hard and I'm always on time.

The worst? I'm temperamental and very demanding.

What do you still want to achieve as a professional?

More quality movies and choice stage work. I'd like to do classic plays. I did Nick Joaquin's "Pinoy Agonistes" at the CCP Little Theater. It gave me a different kind of high. It was such a welcome respite. I told myself, "God, aktres pa rin ako."

Do you plan to revive "Meldita?"

I'm planning to put up a major stand-up comedy shows and "Meldita" will definitely be part of it.

I have a high standard when it comes to performing. I don't want to use recycled scripts. I always want to use new materials.

What's your biggest fear?

Dying at this age.

Why are you afraid of dying?

Life is good. I worry about Roger, although less of Robin. I have this fear of losing Roger because he's older than I am. If there's one big prayer that I have for both of us, it's for God to give us a long life so we can celebrate one anniversary after

TESSIE/ A23

BUSINESS

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor



ENGINE OIL

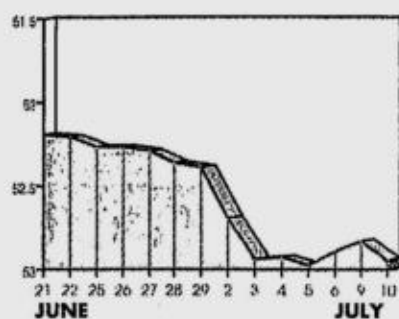
Formulated
for
Honda Engines

HONDA

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



Peso-Dollar Rate

P 52.95 = \$1

As of 5 p.m.,
July 10, 2001

¥ 125.62 = \$1

The US dollar was trading
at 125.62 as of 5 p.m.,
July 10, 2001GOLD: \$267.10/267.60
per ounce Hong Kong,
July 10, 2001

STOCK MARKET

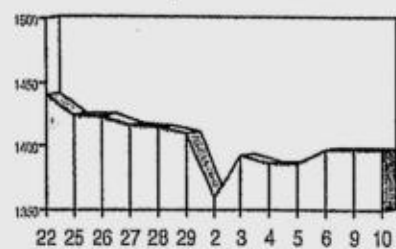
Shares end down
on profit-taking

STOCKS ended slightly lower yesterday as investors chose to take profits on selected blue chips and lower liners in the absence of fresh positive leads, traders said.

The sell-off after Monday's slight gains reflected the continued short-term nature of investors who have been quick to sell into any uptick in the market.

A host of negatives including the law and order situation, slowing economy, rising inflation and the volatile peso continue to thwart upside movement. "There is a lack of conviction on the investors side for any sustained rise, at least in the short term," United Coconut Planters Bank Trust Fund portfolio manager Vanessa Lim said.

PSE Composite Index



JUNE JULY

(See stock market report on Page B4)

SHARES/ B4

IMF says growth outlook uncertain for RP economy

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund said the Philippine economy faces an uncertain growth outlook amid weakening exports, strains in the banking system and a large budget deficit.

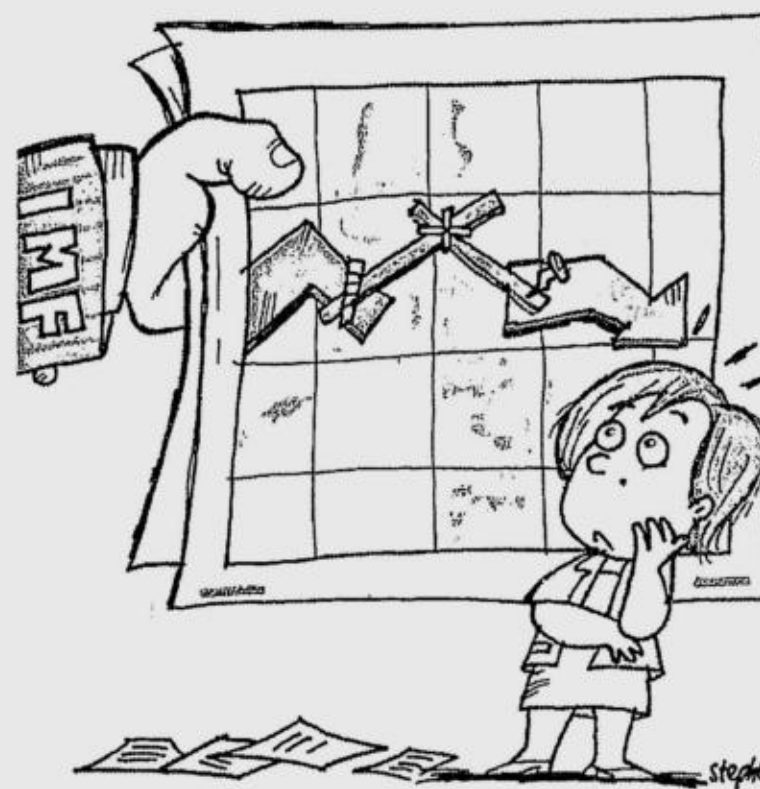
On the plus side, inflation has been contained and foreign reserves are intact, it said in a report issued Monday in Washington.

In a review of the country's economy—its first since Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo became president in January—the IMF forecast gross domestic product expanding 3 percent in 2001, with an improvement in domestic demand as the main driver. This is a downward revision of an earlier forecast of 3.3 percent.

The IMF acknowledged that Ms Macapagal has inherited a "challenging economic situation." She was swept to power on Jan. 20 following the ouster of Joseph Estrada, who faces corruption charges.

"The main downside risks stem from weakening global demand for electronics exports and the budget deficit, where higher-than-targeted domestic financing could put upward pressure on interest rates," the IMF said.

The government forecasts growth of at least 3.3 percent this year, but many private economists believe that is beyond its grasp. Growth in the first quarter slowed to 2.5 percent year-on-



year from 3.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 2000.

The IMF expects inflation to remain moderate, falling to around 5 per-

cent by the end of the year, reflecting the stabilization of the peso and low capacity utilization.

Inflation in the six months to June

averaged 6.7 percent. The government has set a full-year target of 6 percent to 7 percent.

Despite falling exports, the IMF expects the current account to remain in surplus due to weak import demand.

The IMF review is part of a non-loan monitoring program of the Philippine economy. As a seal of good housekeeping, investors are likely to watch whether the Philippines meets the economic and fiscal targets set in consultation with the IMF.

Although the banking sector is generally adequately capitalized, the IMF said, it has weakened somewhat, reflecting the turmoil in Manila's financial markets from the leadership crisis that erupted last October.

The IMF's concerns over the weakening fundamentals of the banking system are also shared by the leading credit rating agencies, which have cited this as a reason for keeping the Philippines' country outlook on negative.

The IMF said it "strongly" supports the government's economic strategy, centered on "fiscal discipline, good governance, market-oriented reform and poverty reduction."

The IMF said it backed the government's plans to focus on fiscal discipline, stamping out corruption, undertaking market-oriented reforms and reducing poverty.

IMF/ B2

OPEL

Robust. Full-bodied. Well-balanced. Genuinely German.



OPEL ASTRA

Cheers to your first German car! Happy Hour* is until July 31, 2001.

Prices start at P 799,000.



1.6 ASTRA SEDAN

The passion that made the Germans famous for their beer is the same dedication to excellence you can experience in their cars. The Opel Astra, for instance, is a celebration of German engineering excellence. Robust with its 1.6L ECOTEC engine with the latest Euro-4 standard emission control. Full-bodied with its solid, fully-galvanized body with a 12-year anti-corrosion warranty. Well-balanced with legendary Opel handling and riding comfort. Now's the best time to upgrade to an Opel Astra and get a taste of German engineering at its finest. Visit GM AutoWorld and ask about our special deal on the Opel Astra 2001.

SUPERIOR OPTIONS: Fully-galvanized body with 12-year anti-corrosion warranty, dynamic safety action suspension system, exclusive anti-dust and pollen cabin filter, speed sensitive electro-hydraulic power steering, 16-valve ECOTEC engine, Euro-4 standard emission control, leading-edge cockpit design. **STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS:** 2-years or 50,000 km. bumper-to-bumper warranty, ABS, central locking system, immobilizer, driver's side airbag, radio with in-dash CD player, new 6 spoke alloy wheel, all power features.

PHOTO MAY VARY FROM ACTUAL UNITS AVAILABLE.

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2307 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 843-0217 to 20 / 843-0228
814-0803 / 814-0838

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 374-1250 to 59 / 372-8001
Fax No.: 372-8008

GM AutoWorld PAMPANGA
San Fernando-Gapan Rd., San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. No.: (45) 963-0888
Fax No.: (45) 963-1333

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City
Tel. No.: (32) 234-0428
Fax No.: (32) 231-7780

GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.

GM AutoWorld

Per DTI-NCR Permit #0769 Series of 2001



ETERNAL PLANS, INC.

LIFE * PENSION * EDUCATION

Dominga Building III, 2113 Chino Roces Avenue corner dela Rosa Street, Makati City
Tel Nos.: 818-99-31 to 35 Fax: 893-17-09 eMail: eternal@bell.com



FRAUDULENTLY ATTACHED

Rose Pack recovers prime Pasig properties

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

THE PASIG Regional Trial Court has ordered Philippine Commercial International Bank to return prime properties in Pasig to Rose Packing Co. Inc., a shuttered company that used to operate the country's largest cannery.

In an order issued Friday, Pasig RTC Judge Alfredo Flores ordered PCIBank, which merged with Equitable Banking Corp. in 1999 to form Equitable PCI Bank Inc., to follow a Jan. 9, 1993, Supreme Court ruling that up-

held, with finality, Rose Pack's claims over two pieces of property in Pasig.

Businessman Rene Knecht, whose family owned Rose Pack, claimed these properties were fraudulently attached by PCIBank, which was then controlled by the Lopez and Gokongwei families.

Rose Pack is battling to recover three properties. Apart from the properties in Pasig that it has been allowed to reclaim, it is also claiming ownership over a 31,000-square-meter property covering the entire town of Cainta in Rizal.

The court has ruled against returning the Cainta property to the company, saying it is no longer possible despite a 1993 Supreme Court decision allowing it.

Rose Pack, however, will now be able to seek a writ of possession covering the Pasig properties.

Knecht has already tapped auditing firm Pinkerton Asia Ltd. to assess the amount of damages it will claim against PCIBank as a result of the fraudulent attachment of these properties, which include the company's factory site.

He estimated that the claims would amount to billions of pesos considering the losses his company incurred when these properties were taken away forcibly by the bank.

Rose Pack was the country's second-largest food manufacturer next only to multinational firm Del Monte Philippines Inc. when its properties and production facilities were attached by PCIBank in the 1970s.

The Pasig court ordered the cancellation of the titles of the properties in the name of PCIBank in favor of

Rose Pack.

It clarified, however, that new titles could not be issued under the name of Knecht Inc. because the company was not a party to the case.

Knecht Inc. is the holding company claiming the assets of Rose Pack, whose corporate life ceased in 1986.

The Rose Pack vs. PCI Bank case was among the graft and corruption charges that Knecht's late mother, Cristina Bradley, a US citizen, had requested the US Congress to investigate in 1997.

In her earlier letter to Texas Rep. Lamar Smith on Sept. 23, 1997, she explained what she believed was the motive behind PCIBank's acts against Rose Pack.

Bradley said her problems began when the late dictator, Ferdinand Marcos, first assumed office in 1966 and promptly laid the groundwork for the dictatorship that ensued when he declared Martial Law in 1972.

She said Marcos used his cohorts in PCIBank to grab the operations of Rosepack.

Despite gloom, gains seen from bonds

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

DESPITE bearish sentiments among creditors toward emerging markets, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas expressed confidence yesterday that the national government's \$500-million global bond float would easily fetch \$200 million in additional subscriptions.

"I am confident that there is a good chance that there would be an oversubscription," Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura told reporters.

The government will issue \$500 million worth of 10-year global bonds in the coming weeks.

Buenaventura's optimism comes at

a time when many analysts fear that emerging economies, including the Philippines, are showing their first signs of weakness since their major crises in 1997 and 1998, when they were rescued by billions of dollars in aid from the international financial community.

Just as the world economy is tailing off, Argentina, Brazil, Poland and Turkey are among the countries beginning to falter.

Other regions appear to be on the brink, including Asia, which "is once again experiencing serious difficulties," according to Morgan Stanley Dean Witter's weekly report.

Argentina's recurrent difficulties,

including another denial of resignation rumors by Finance Minister Domingo Cavallo, put pressure on the currencies of southern Latin America on Friday.

Asia could be the next to be hit, according to international bank Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.

"The latest news coming out of Asia is simply very bad," according to the bank.

Exports from the region have collapsed by up to 23 percent in Taiwan, 16 percent in the Philippines and 13 percent in Singapore.

A banking source said US investment bank Credit Suisse First Boston, which the Philippine government

tapped to handle its \$500-million bond float, was worried it might suffer losses from the transaction.

Spreads on 10-year bonds has widened by as much as a percentage point following reports that Argentina may default on its loans.

Credit Suisse, according to a person familiar with the matter, may ask to renegotiate the pricing of the country's bonds, but Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho has said that as far as he is concerned, there will be no changes.

"A lot would really depend on whether or not Argentina defaults. If there would be a default, then I guess we are stuck with \$500 million," Camacho said.

\$200-M bond float on track, says Digitel

DIGITAL Telecommunications Philippines Inc. said yesterday its \$200-million bond floatation was already in its documentation stage.

"Hopefully, the bond float will be done before the year ends," Digitel senior vice president for legal and inter-carrier services William Pamintuan said in an interview.

He said Digitel was confident of the bond market's viability, but he stressed it was still difficult to make speculations as of now.

"The terms of the bonds are good, so I think we could sell them," he added.

Digitel has hired ING Barings to market the convertible bonds, which have a seven-year maturity period and a 10-percent interest rate.

The bond floatation is set to finance Digitel's entry into the wireless business by the first quarter of next year. Digitel was supposed to start its cellular operations this month, but it was put off for April or May next year because it lacked funds.

"But we'll already have our soft launch in December and we'll be starting commercial operations by April or May next year," he said. Abigail L. Ho

PDIC clears Urban Bank rehabilitation

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS

THE BOARD of Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. yesterday approved the recommendation of its management that Urban Bank Inc. be rehabilitated under the scheme proposed by Export and Industry Bank and the National Association of Urban Bank and Urbancorp Investments Inc. Depositors and Creditors, or Naud.

PDIC executive vice president Ricardo Tan said a signing of a memorandum of agreement between PDIC and the EIB-Naud group would be held in Malacañang this Friday.

The Monetary Board, the policy-making body of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, was expected yesterday to approve the proposed rehabilitation of Urban Bank.

The management of PDIC last month determined that the proposed rehabilitation of Urban Bank was viable and the bank could be re-opened by August with safety to depositors, creditors and the general public.

EIB president Benjamin Castillo earlier said EIB would start servicing the first tranche of payments amounting to P500,000 for each depositor or creditor of the Urban group next month.

Castillo said EIB would then or-

ganize a program schedule for the payment of the balance owed to around 5,000 depositors and creditors over a three- to six-year period.

Under the approved rehabilitation plan, at least 10 percent of the deposits and placements of Urban Bank and its 40-percent owned investment house, Urbancorp, would be converted into equity.

EIB would then merge with Urban Bank and Urbancorp to create an entity with P3.8 billion in capital funds.

Urban Bank, a publicly listed company, would be the surviving entity, but the name of the bank would subsequently be changed to Export and Industry Bank.

As part of its commitment to help the bank, PDIC would extend P430 million in concessional financial assistance to EIB and would provide a P1.5-billion standby facility at market rates to EIB for any unanticipated withdrawals.

Around 5,000 depositors and creditors have funds trapped in Urban Bank and Urbancorp amounting to P12 billion.

This is on top of the over P3 billion combined funds of the two financial institutions' three largest depositors/investors, San Miguel Corp., Petron Corp. and Manila Electric Co.

NSC rehab will be fair-Roxas

TRADE Secretary Mar Roxas has assured local GI sheet manufacturers that there will be no unfair competition that will arise from the entry of new investors to cash-strapped National Steel Corp.

In a letter to members of the Filipino Galvanizers Institute, Roxas said consultations with industry players would be conducted in connection with the planned rehabilitation and operation of NSC.

FGI, consisting of nine GI sheet industry players, earlier raised the possibility of an uneven playing field with the entry of a new investor to NSC.

They even claimed lobbying and pressures were already being exerted on government agencies to provide for a

tariff-free import duty for the new NSC investor.

The incentive was meant to make the debt-ridden NSC more palatable for new financiers.

In a recent letter to Roxas, FGI president Salvo Perez urged the trade department to resist "the pressures and lobbying of these parties" for the government to grant incentives and perks "as a precondition to the award of the right or contract to lease or operate the NSC facilities."

"Any measure of this kind will have a negative impact on the competitiveness of the local galvanizing industry, in particular, and Philippine downstream steel industries, in general."

FGI warned it would "vigorously" oppose any grant of tariff protection since this was precisely one of the reasons why NSC failed to raise its competitiveness in the wake of globalization.

"When tariff rates started to go down, the company was ill-equipped and ill-prepared to remain competitive as it could not wean away from the immense privileges it used to enjoy," it said.

While they agreed that NSC had to be rehabilitated, FGI suggested that the government choose an investor with proven technical and financial capabilities "and is in a position to infuse the capital needed to continuously operate the plant of this magnitude."



PLANTERSBANK

Planters Development Bank

The Bank for Small and Medium Enterprises
Plantersbank Bldg., 314 Buendia Ave., Ext., Makati City
STATEMENT OF CONDITION
(Head Office and Branches)
As of JUNE 22, 2001

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Items	116,344,176
Due from Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	841,822,740
Due from Other Banks	1,157,725,019
Loans, Discounts and Advances (Net)	11,890,347,481
Investment in Bonds and Other Debt Instruments (Net)	485,414,169
Equity Investments (Net)	54,409,008
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (Net)	832,355,808
Other Assets (Net):	
a. Property Owned/Acquired	2,992,992,790
b. Others	1,867,869,606

TOTAL ASSETS **P 20,439,280,807**

LIABILITIES	
Demand Deposits	878,517,859
Savings Deposits	7,027,658,115
Time Deposits	1,212,353,539
Due to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	8,489,591
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders	86,651,362
Bills Payable:	
BSP - Rediscounts/Special Programs	5,449,092,424
Others	2,806,935,826
Unearned Income and Other Deferred Credits	25,597,063
Other Liabilities	478,695,797

TOTAL LIABILITIES **P 17,773,994,546**

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	
Capital Stock	1,562,470,045
Surplus	659,096,361
Surplus Reserves	5,593,735
Appraisal Increment Reserve	438,126,120

TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS **P 2,665,286,261**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS **P 20,439,280,807**

CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

Unused Commercial Letters of Credit	118,265,000
Bills for Collection - Domestic	974
Assets Held Under Trust and Investment Mgt. Agreements	340,828,597
Invested in:	
Government Securities	P 29,136,931
Other Securities, Debt Instrument	
and Shares of Stock	123,860,216
Loans and Discounts	53,467,719
Other Assets	134,263,731

Accountabilities:	
Trust and Other Fiduciary	179,800,160
Investment/Fund Management	50,000,000
Unearned Income and Other	
Accountabilities	111,028,417

Securities Held as Collaterals	18,210
Other Contingent Accounts	16,595,010

TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS **P 476,650,966**

Other Information	
1. Deposits of:	
a.) Government	P 48,559,641
b.) Banks	303,986,274
c.) Trust Department	14,459,247

2. COMPLIANCE WITH MAGNA CARTA LAW	
Prescribed Ratio of Compliance	6% For Small Ent. 2% For Medium Ent.
Actual Compliance	406.17% 132.47%

Additional Information	
1. Non-performing loans and ratio to total loan portfolio	P 1,473,573,916 11.86%
2. Classified loans and other risk assets	1,348,580,870 154,130,829
3. General loan loss reserve	222,826,877
4. Specific loan loss reserve	2,377
5. Return on equity (ROE)	531,962,626 4.30%
6. DQSRH loans/advances and ratio to total loan portfolio	NONE
7. Past due DQSRH loans/advances and ratio to total loan portfolio	NONE

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
MAKATI, METRO MANILA J.S.S.

We, Vicente G. Gamio and Maria Flordele F. Aguenza of the above mentioned bank, do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above statement of condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(SGD) VICENTE G. GAMIO (SGD) MARIA FLORDELE F. AGUENZA
Senior Vice President President

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 9th day of July 2001 at Makati, Metro Manila affiants exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No. 05171972 issued at Quezon City on March 13, 2001 and Residence Certificate No. 06171720 issued at Quezon City on February 14, 2001.

Doc. No. 39
Page No. 7
Date No. 11
Date No. 2001

Foreign Shareholders: International Finance Corporation (IFC)
Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO)
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Member: PDIC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JESUS P. TAMBUNTING
Chairman

JOSE P. TAMBUNTING
Vice-Chairman

MA. FLORDELIS F. AGUENZA
Director

CHEOLSU KIM
Director

Asian Development Bank

THOMAS E. KRAYENBUHL
Director

International Finance Corp.

GUILLERMO LUCHANGCO
Director

NICO PIJL
Director

Netherlands Dev. Finance Co.

RICARDO J. ROMULO
Director

SABINO S. SANTOS
Director

ANTONIO P. TAMBUNTING
Director

PANSER E. TUMANGAN
Director

Development Bank of the Philippines

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

JESUS P. TAMBUNTING
Chief Executive Officer

MA. FLORDELIS F. AGUENZA
President

MANUEL T. SIA
Executive Vice-President

MA. AGNES J. ANGELES
Senior Vice President

FE MIRANDA T. ARUTA
Senior Vice President

ISMAEL G. ESTELA
Senior Vice President

AIDA GADIN
Senior Vice President

VICENTE G. GAMO
Senior Vice President

REYNALDO P. ORSOLINO
Senior Vice President

This year's content doubled in the area Next-Generation EC, namely: XML, DTDs, Schemas, XSL, XQuery, XPath, XHTML. Reserve Your Seat Now!

The eCommerce Training Course

"EC Best Practices: Building the Future"

July 23-27, 2001
ACCEED Conference Center
Makati City, Philippines

by DAVID PARAISO JR., US-based eCommerce Expert & Advocate

Training Component

- Implementing Purchasing, AP and AR EC/EDI/XML
- Implementing Logistics EC/EDI/XML
- Implementing Financial EC/EDI/XML
- Implementing Auditing EC/EDI/XML
- Managing EC/EDI/XML

What You Will Learn

- Current and future state of B2B, B2C, and G2G practices
- Trends, utility, and implications on business and technical benchmarks, international trade facilitations on obligations, bilateral trade, audit project, project management techniques, life cycle of products and services, electronic trading, exchange and auction communities.
- Open, closed networks, and core technologies
- Cradle-to-grave case studies and business models
- And, those indicated in above Training Component

About the Resource Speaker

David Paraiso Jr. is one of the world's top notch and charismatic advocate on Electronic Commerce, CALS, EDI, and Business process Engineering. His courses on Electronic Commerce and IT subjects are amongst the US-recognized Certificate Program in UC-Berkeley, UC-Irvine, Georgia Institute of Technology, US International University-San Diego, University of New Mexico, Arizona State University, and Electronic Commerce Research Center.

David Paraiso Jr. has 23 years of solid experience in planning and implementing large scale Electronic Commerce systems integration projects primarily with Fortune's top 1,000 corporations.

IT-INTL@yahoogroups.com

David Paraiso Jr. is the Founder of IT-INTL@yahoogroups.com, a virtual community of businessmen, professionals and researchers with interests in outsourcing Information Technology (IT), eCommerce, call centers, engineering, accounting, administrative and other services to the Philippines.

For more details, call: Fiera de Manila, Inc. telephone numbers: (632) 896-0639, 896-0637, 899-6893, email: Fiera@info.com.ph, dparaiso@worldnet.att.net Visit Website: www.fmi.com.ph/eCommerce01/Index2.html

IMF...

(From page B1)

But it cautioned: "Further steps will be needed to put the public finances on a sound footing."

Given high debt levels, the IMF said it was key that deficit targets for the whole year be met. The report also said "speedy action" was needed to strengthen the banking sector.

The lender suggested the country's central bank and the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. be given additional authority to deal with problem banks quickly.

The IMF said the authorities' current monetary and exchange policy was appropriate and welcomed the central bank's intention to adopt inflation targeting. The Washington-based lender said that further interest rate cuts should be held back until the inflation outlook has improved.

It said continued flexibility in the peso and avoiding a decline in reserves would also be key to reducing the vulnerability of the economy.

The IMF said the government had made solid progress on structural reforms, but said more should be done to further efforts on corruption and trade liberalization.

The government on Monday said it was sticking with its full year forecast for economic growth of 3.3 to 3.8 percent, with no plans for a review of that projection until the second quarter growth data is released in August. AP, Reuters

Employees of Mercury Drug, Metro Drug, Metro Pharma, Whitehall and Whitehall's advertising and promotion agencies, and their relatives, up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity, are not qualified to join this promo. Participants can only win once.

Visit the Mercury Drug website at www.mercury.com or e-mail us at info@mercurydrug.com.

¹ Color of cellphone may vary from picture shown.

ICTSI set to invest P416M to jumpstart Brazil project

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

PORT operator International Container Terminal Services Inc. is set to invest P416 million (\$8 million) to jumpstart by November this year its operations in the newly privatized Port of Suape in Brazil over a 30-year concession period.

ICTSI's wholly owned subsidiary, Tecon Suape SA (TSSA), which was created to operate and develop the container terminal at the port, is expected to invest \$60 million in equipment and facilities over the 30-year period, the company disclosed to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday.

Suape will be ICTSI's first new overseas project after the sale of its international subsidiaries under ICTSI International Holdings Corp. to a unit of Hong Kong-based Hutchison Whampoa last month.

TSSA will invest a total of \$13 million in the first year of operations, the disclosure said. During the first year, TSSA is expected to incur a loss of \$500,000.

Based on the bidding guidelines for the port, the minimum price was set at \$50 million for a period of 30 years, and called for another \$40 million to be invested in the new terminal.

The disclosure specified that TSSA was obligated to pay the Suape Port Authority an initial fee of \$3.5 million,

an annual fixed fee of approximately \$1.55 million and variable fee of \$25, \$7.50 and \$15 per full, empty and transhipped TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units).

"The container terminal has two 660-meter berths, a 23.5-meter concrete apron, and 27 hectares of yard area. Expansion is possible on 330 meters of existing quay line and 13 hectares of yard," the disclosure said.

Suape is a state company wholly owned by the State of Pernambuco. The concession was awarded to ICTSI on May 5 after a public bidding. Suape was established in 1978 as an industrial development zone covering 13,500 hectares and located 40 kilometers south of Recife, Pernambuco's state capital.

Suape's 51-foot deep waters allow large ships to berth on the South American east coast, a vital junction between the US to Europe routes.

The privatization of the Suape Port is the state government's latest attempt to trim down port costs and perk up internal competition. The state government has so far invested \$200 million in the port.

Under the concession, the state remains the owner of the port, whose operations, however, are transferred to a private operator for a specified period of time. Among the advantages of the scheme is that it provides income

to the government during the term of the concession and allows private capital investment in cranes and berths.

International Finance Corp., the investment arm of the World Bank, is providing financial assistance to carry

out market, economic, financial and technical reforms and to assist in assessing the legal matters necessary to develop the privatization of the Suape port's container terminal under a long-term lease contract.

CURRENCIES

Jul-10-2001 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US\$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.177995	1.000000	52.8630
Japan	Yen	0.009396	0.007976	0.4216
United Kingdom	Pound	1.658970	1.408300	74.4470
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.151219	0.128370	6.7860
Switzerland	Franc	0.656119	0.556979	29.4436
Canada	Dollar	0.774793	0.657722	34.7692
Singapore	Dollar	0.644594	0.547196	28.9264
Australia	Dollar	0.600405	0.509684	26.9434
Bahrain	Dinar	3.124822	2.852661	140.2276
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.314132	0.266667	14.0968
Brunel	Dollar	0.643608	0.546359	28.8822
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000104	0.000088	0.0047
Thailand	Baht	0.025936	0.022017	1.1639
UAE	Dirham	0.320805	0.272331	14.3962
Korea	Won	0.000911	0.000773	0.0409
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.848900	44.8754
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.434036	22.9444
France	Franc	0.152450	0.129414	6.8412
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.385214	20.3636
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.061692	3.2612
Belgium	Franc	0.024790	0.021044	1.1124
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000438	0.0232
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.142775	7.5475
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004234	0.2238
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005102	0.2697
Luxembourg	Franc	0.024790	0.021044	1.1124
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.077881	56.9800

Philippine Stock Exchange

STOCKS	(As of Tuesday, July 10, 2001)				VOLUME
	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.1	5.1	5	5	15,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	71	71.5	70.5	71	87,400
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	35.5	36	35.5	35.5	53,200
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	206	208	205	206	30,300
Philippine National Bank	45	45	43.5	43.5	18,800
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	17,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.36	170,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	255	260	250	255	4,400
Manulife Financial Corp.	1415	1415	1410	1415	2,960
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1230	1235	1225	1230	3,390

COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL						1230	3,390
COMMUNICATION							
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5		17,000	
Diversified Fin. Network	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5		1,000	
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.57	0.57	0.54	0.55		1,980,000	
Globe Telecom Inc.	650	675	650	670		235,590	
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042		200,000	
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.53	0.55	0.53	0.53		510,000	
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.8		178,000	
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	705	705	695	695		115,040	
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.037	0.037	0.035	0.036		33,800,000	

POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	38	38	38	38	8,200
Manila Electric Co. B	53	53	51	51.5	1,136,000
Petron Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.04	2.04	2,250,000

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.3	1.32	1.3	1.32	295,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.5	2.55	2.48	2.55	2,304,000
Negros Navigation Co. Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	60,000
William, Gothong & Aboliz	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	3,000

William, Goring & Adams	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	3,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	50,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	10,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	120,000

United Cereals Corp.				1.16	120,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.08	2.08	2.08	2.08	10,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5	5	4.8	4.85	1,728,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.75	14	13.75	14	232,700
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	26.5	26.5	26	26.5	115,000
RFM Corp.	2.14	2.14	2	2.06	6,248,000
San Miguel Corp. A	41.5	42	41.5	42	38,900
San Miguel Corp. B	48	48	47.5	47.5	354,900
Universal Robina Corp.	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	6,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000

Manila Corp.	0.3		0.3	0.3	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.84	620,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.83	0.84	0.83	0.84	50,000
Ayala Corp.	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	930,000
Aboliz Equity Ventures	1.46	1.54	1.46	1.48	2,908,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	11	11.25	11	11	800
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	1.26	1.26	1.16	1.16	717,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.006	0.0085	0.006	0.006	34,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.3	2.3	2.12	2.12	20,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	12	12	12	12	600

Bacharof Units Issues Inc.	12	12	12	12	600
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.205	0.205	430,000
Bampres Holdings Corp.	1.9	1.94	1.84	1.84	5,375,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.29	850,000
Ebamcor Holdings Inc.	0.15	0.165	0.14	0.14	11,550,000
Ever-Gatesco Resources	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	900,000
Finnvest Dev. Corp.	1		1		120,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	31	31	30	30.5	385,500
Global Equities Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	200,000
Guoco Holdings (Philis.)	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	280,000
Ionics Inc.	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	3,000
Ipeople Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	2,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	2.08	2.08	2.08	2.08	10,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74	220,000
Megnum Holdings Inc.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	40,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.48	0.48	0.46	0.46	2,400,000
Philhread Hdgs. Corp. B	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	190,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	190,000
Seafront Resources Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	10,000
Unilwide Holdings Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	700,000
Waterfront Philis. Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	30,000

MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Corp.	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	40,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	900,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	100,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	15.25	15.25	15.25	15.25	30,000

SPT Technologies Inc.	15.25	15.25	15.25	15.25	30,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.49	0.5	0.48	0.48	2,470,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.53	1,310,000
Letsure & Resorts Corp.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	170,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	50,000

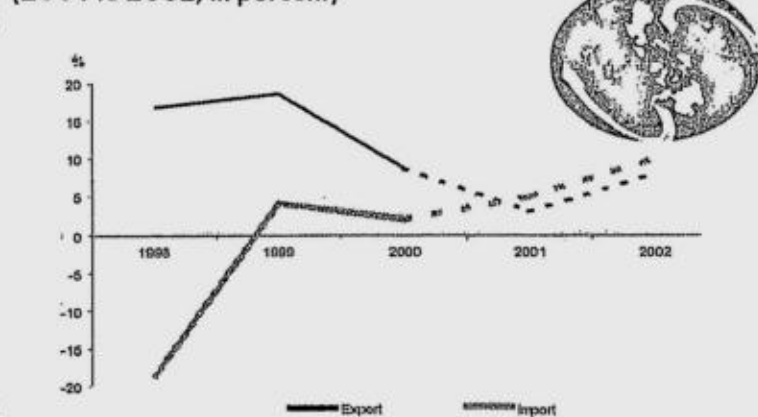
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	50,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	39.5	40	39.5	40	169,300
Cosmos Bottling Corp-Pref	6	6.5	6	6.5	22,000
Equitable PCI Bank-War	2	2	1.9	2	26,000
Jollibee Warrants	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	5,000
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,400
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	300
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	200
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series X	10	10	10	10	1,200
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series Z	10.5	10.5	10.25	10.25	3,300
Philweb Corp Inc.-Warrants	0.025	0.025	0.022	0.023	54,300,000

Philinvest Com Inc.-warrants	0.025	0.025	0.022	0.023	54,300,000
PROPERTY					
Aysala Land Inc.	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	305,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	630,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	1,320,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	1,260,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	1.28	1.28	1.2	1.2	32,000
Fillinvest Land Inc.	2.18	2.18	2.16	2.16	385,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	310,000
SM Development Corp.	0.79	0.8	0.79	0.8	130,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.4	1,708,000

Low Prime Holdings in	6.3		6.3	6.4	17,705,000
MINING					
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	60,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	10,000
Ilogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.038	0.038	0.035	0.035	31,600,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.19	0.19	0.185	0.185	370,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.19	0.2	0.19	0.2	30,000
Manila Mining Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	16,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	32,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	18,000,000
Phillex Mining Corp. A	0.36	0.41	0.36	0.41	1,560,000
Phillex Mining Corp. B	0.39	0.43	0.39	0.42	5,660,000

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

Projected growth of RP exports & imports*
(2001 to 2002, in percent)*1998 to 2000= actual figures; 2001 to 2002= projections
Source: Asian Development Bank's, "Asian Development Outlook 2001"

PHILIPPINE trade figures showed declining imports last year attributed to "weak domestic demand." But the Asian Development Bank expected imports to pick up starting this year until 2002. Exports were expected to be adversely affected by a slowdown in the economy of the United States where almost 30-percent of Philippine exports go.

Mericar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

Vehicle sales down 14.8%

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

THE AUTOMOTIVE industry is bound for another setback this year as sales of passenger cars and commercial vehicles fell by 14.8 percent in the first six months this year.

The Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. reported that sales reached only 35,379 units from January to June this year, lower than the 41,523 units sold in the same period last year.

The six-month sales performance dampened hopes of the industry for a recovery. Sales are unlikely to match last year's sales. Sales rose 12.8 percent to 83,949 units last year from 74,414 units in 1999.

A slump in production plus weak consumer sentiment due to the shaky political and security issues

have kept buyers out of dealer showrooms in the first half this year.

Commercial vehicle sales slipped 7.3 percent to 24,329 units in the first half this year from 26,259 units a year ago. Due to resilient demand for Asian utility vehicles enabled commercial vehicles to corner 69 percent of total industry sales.

Passenger car sales crashed 27.6 percent to 11,050 units in the first six months this year from 15,264 units a year ago.

Toyota Motors Philippines Corp. maintained its lead in a shrinking market with a 24.5-percent market share with 8,652 units sold in the first six months. The best-selling Toyota Tamaraw FX and Revo models accounted for more than half of its sales.

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines



AUTOMOTIVE industry facing another reversal

Corp. was second with a market share of 21.1 percent with 7,473 units sold in the first six months. Its AUV bet, the Adventure, sold 2,589 units in the first half and sales are expected to improve in the second half this year with the introduction of a new model.

Honda Cars Philippines Inc. was

third with a 13.8-percent share of the market with 4,929 units sold. Isuzu Philippines Corp. was fourth with an 11.8-percent market share with 4,171 units sold. The Nissan group sold a combined 4,006 units in the first half for an 11.3-percent market share.

Gov't studies options for Meralco stake

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS

THE FINANCE department has asked the Investment Houses Association of the Philippines to submit another proposal for the disposition of the government's 10-percent stake in Manila Electric Co.

In an interview Friday, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said that IHAP's proposal to list warrants for the government's shares in the electric company could not be considered a divestment. Share warrants are rights to the shares of a certain company at a future date.

"I want to reflect it as a sale," Camacho said on the privatization move.

Under the IHAP proposal there will still be the risk that the government will not be able to dispose of its stake in Meralco assuming certain conditions, such as the price of the issue, were not met.

The finance secretary said that the sale of the Meralco stake and the rehabilitation of Philippine National Bank were two of the most important activities he intended to complete this year.

The government expects to raise P4 billion to P6 billion from the sale of its interest in the utility company which, it hopes, will help contain the country's budget deficit to P145 billion this year.

Earlier, Camacho said the government was considering either a secondary placement or a put and call option as a means of disposing the government's Meralco stake.

Several foreign investment banks have made separate proposals to the government on how to dispose of the government's Meralco stake through private placements.

Publicly listed Meralco, controlled by the Lopez family, is the country's biggest private distributor of electricity.

Equitable is SSS' depository bank

THE MONETARY Board has approved the appointment of Equitable PCI Bank as the Social Security System's depository bank. SSS, a financial giant with resources of P181.7 billion and 23 million members, requires extensive banking services.

SSS chair and president Vitaliano N. Nafagas II said: "We have chosen financial institution that has both the strong resources and the capability to service our various requirements."

Equitable PCI Bank president Deogracias N. Vistan welcomed this development as a strong testimonial of the bank's quality service and reliability, and its strong relationship with the SSS. The SSS is a major shareholder of Equitable PCI Bank owning a 22-percent stake. Nafagas said the SSS would fully support the bank in attaining its goals.

By availing itself of Equitable PCI Bank's services, SSS will enjoy the convenience, speed and accessibility offered by the bank's wide array of products and services that include electronic banking.

Equitable PCI Bank has established leadership positions in various businesses including corporate banking, commercial banking, trust banking, remittances (Express Padala), leasing and finance (PCI Leasing & Finance, Inc.), investment banking (PCI Capital Corp.), and credit cards (Equitable CardNetwork). The country's third largest bank has likewise received numerous best bank awards from various international financial publications.

Don't agonize... legalize



Join the BSA Assistance in Software Auditing Program (ASAP), and get a "Clean Bill of Software Health."

If your company is using illegal software, you face the risk of being raided. And if convicted, you could spend up to 9 years in prison and pay fines of up to P1.5 million. The damage to your business and reputation can be serious, perhaps, irreparable.

Don't wait until it is too late. Join BSA's Assistance in Software Auditing Program (ASAP).

ASAP is endorsed and supported by the Information Technology and E-Commerce Council (ITECC), the highest ICT policy-making body in the Philippines.

To register your interest, just complete the ASAP reply form that your company will be receiving through the mail along with other materials pertaining to the program. If you have not received any letter from BSA so far, call the BSA ASAP Hotline at 893-7354 or log on to www.bsa.org/philippines.

Reply forms must be returned by mail at P.O. Box 3335 MCPO Makati, Metro Manila or by fax at 891-3431 on or before **August 31, 2001** for your company to be eligible for the program.



Business Software Alliance

Report software piracy at 811-5897 (Metro Manila) or 1-800-1-888-8787 (outside Metro Manila)

"...Advanced..."

or visit www.usthospital.com

Gov't warned of massive layoff in cement industry

THE LABOR force of the cement industry has warned of a massive layoff in its ranks as it asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to step in and stop cement imports from further destroying the local industry through unfair competition and price undercutting.

In their letter-appeal to the President and to Trade and Industry Secretary Mar Roxas II, several labor union groups said that if cement imports would continue edging local cement out of the market, about 50,000 more workers and their families would likely lose their jobs and source of livelihood.

These labor groups include Alsons Cement Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative Inc., Davao Bacnotan Ce-

ment Workers Union, Apo Cemco-ALU and Solid Cement Labor Union.

So far, they said, more than 23,400 workers and their families have already been affected directly by the import surge from Taiwan, Japan and Indonesia, which forced the industry to cut by half its capacity. The share of imports in the total market rose steadily from 1.5 percent in 1998 to 24 percent as of June this year.

The unions also said that "consumers do not benefit from the import surge because retail prices of imported cement are only P2 to P5 lower than retail price of local cement. Only the importers and middlemen profit from the surge because while they bring in imported cement at P92 per bag, they sell it at P137, or at an exorbitant P45 profit margin."

That is why, the unions said at a

hearing on July 5, only importers and traders masquerading as consumers or contractors opposed the cement industry's application for safeguard measures.

The workers said the "aggressive invasion of foreigners through the dumping of their excess cement" here was the downside of globalization and should be checked by increasing the tariff on cement by 50 percent.

The cement industry earlier said the provisional tariff should not result in higher retail prices because it would be imposed not on retail prices but on the landed cost of imports. The tariff, it added, would only eat into the "immoral margins" of the middlemen. The cement industry has also explained that even with a 50-percent tariff, imported cement will remain in the market since the cost of importation was

not expected to rise substantially.

The workers trooped to the Department of Trade and Industry on July 5 to express their support for the tariff shield that the industry was seeking.

They were joined by hundreds of people from all walks of life—politicians from various affected municipalities, executives whose companies service the requirements of the cement industry and residents of areas that have prospered and are now suffering with the cement companies.

They added that these middlemen and foreign interests have virtually no stake in the country unlike the local companies that generate jobs and had invested in the past few years more than \$2 billion to make the local industry one of the most modern in the world.

RFM sets up escrow fund to pay bonds

FOOD conglomerate RFM Corp. said on Monday it was setting up an escrow fund, which it would use to meet outstanding payments to its bondholders.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, RFM said it and its unit RFM Capital Ltd. have assured bondholders that all outstanding obligations would be met.

Under the escrow fund proposal, proceeds from the recent sale of its shares in Consumer Savings Bank, and semiconductor unit PSI Technology Holdings, as well as its tuna fish brand, would be allocated to the bondholders, RFM Corp. said.

It said the sale proceeds should total around \$38 million with outstanding bond payment obligations amounting to \$56 million.

RFM chief financial officer Meldin Al G. Roy said the com-

pany would be able to settle around 68 percent of its current obligations as a result of the sale income.

He added that the remaining \$18 million "should be a very manageable amount that will be mainly sourced from operating cash flows."

He said the repayment plan for the remaining \$18 million was being worked out with the bondholders and they expect to successfully conclude very soon a mutually beneficial arrangement and timetable.

Last Friday, the company deferred a quarterly payment of cash dividends for its preferred shares while re-negotiating with bondholders that it failed to pay in May.

In May, it defaulted on the redemption payment of RFM Capital's convertible bonds, citing a temporary cash flow mismatch.

RFM Corp. was down 2 centavos at P2.08 yesterday. Reuters

M. East seen as big tuna mart

DAVAO CITY—The Department of Trade and Industry is eyeing the Middle East as a potential P1-billion market for domestic tuna products.

DTI director for Southern Mindanao Merly Cruz said the trade department was actively pushing for the adoption of an executive order to institutionalize the "roving halal inspectors" in the country.

"Our products are not yet accepted in the international Muslim community," she said.

She said all the products that the country exports to Islamic countries were being sent back with the note to have them inspected by an Imam or Muslim leaders.

"The EO will set up requirements for companies so when their products are finished, they are already in accordance with the halal," she said.

Cruz said the trade department would ensure that the criteria would be in line with the requirements of the international community. Joel B. Escovilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau

GOINGS-ON

Workshop for SMEs

IN CONNECTION with the forthcoming celebration of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Week on July 16 to 20 at the Philippine Trade Training Center, the SMED Council will hold a series of seminar-workshops designed to further strengthen the capability and competitiveness of small and medium enterprises in the country.

Trade Secretary Mar Roxas said the seminars and workshops would equip our SMEs with the knowledge and skills that would enable them to create more jobs, generate greater incomes and export earnings, and prepare them to compete.

This year's SMED Week theme is "Economic Progress through Small and Medium Enterprises," with simultaneous celebrations at the regional level to be spearheaded by provincial SME development councils.

Forum on technologies

A FORUM that will promote the various government programs on enterprise development in support of the government's anti-poverty program is slated on July 18-20, 2001 at the Philippine Trade Training Center along Roxas Blvd. in Pasay City.

At the Manila Forum on Technologies and Financing for Livelihood and Entrepreneurial Projects of Cooperatives, Micro, Cottage, SMEs and Starting Businessmen, resource persons from different government agencies will orient participants with the investment opportunities, technologies, training programs, and financial schemes available to them in their quest to start or expand livelihood projects in their communities.

There will also be a mini bank fair and an exhibit of products and services where developmental agencies, financing institutions and companies with new technologies will conduct one-on-one business clinics at their booths.

Money remittance service accord

THE INTERNATIONAL Exchange Bank (iBank) and Permit Inc. recently entered into a Money Remittance Service Agreement for fast and safe money delivery to designated beneficiaries in the Philippines.

iRemit Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of iVantage Corp. primarily engaged in servicing the money remittance needs of Filipino Overseas Contract Workers (FOCWs) to their loved ones in the Philippines.

iBank branches will serve as remittance payment centers to beneficiaries of iRemit nationwide. The remittance payments will be via iRemit checks encashable at any iBank's branch, real-time credit to account and pick-up of remittance proceeds from any iBank branch within 1 hour from time of remittance abroad.

Alchemy summit

A UNIQUE opportunity awaits business people from private corporations, government institutions and prospective entrepreneurs as marketing partners on July 19.

Information Management Research Co., the world's leader in integrating unstructured data, will be presenting the latest business solutions using information technology in a one-day summit at the Edsa Shangri-la Hotel.

To be presented will be leading edge technologies in Remote Document Capture, Business Process Management, API Integration and New Alchemy Premium as well as new features in Alchemy release 7, Scan2, Data Grabber, Alchemy Webserver 7 and Alchemy XMI.

These technologies will be offered in the Philippines at very competitive costs to enable local companies to reduce their business costs, increase productivity and effectively compete in today's global marketplace.



Andale! Andale! Andale nang kumuha ng loan ngayon!

Makakautang ka ng mula P15,000 hanggang P400,000!*

- Quick cash loans!
- 48-hour approvals!
- No collaterals!

* Subject to credit approval. For more information, visit or call our branch office nearest you.

Napakadali ng requirements!

- Gross monthly income of P12,500
- At least 3 years at residence
- At least 3 years at current job
- At least 23 years old

Mga kailangan sa pagkuha ng tseke

- Certificate of Employment
- 2-months Payslip
- Utility bill
- Valid I.D. with picture

Ganoon kabilis at ganoon kadali!

Kaya pumunta ka na sa pinakamalapit na Associates office dahil andale, andale, andale!

The new Associates branch at Calamba is now open. Call or visit us today!

ASSOCIATES FINANCE, INC. CONSUMER LOANS CENTERS:

CAINTA:
G/F Rublou Business Center,
Ortigas Avenue Extension,
Calamba, Rizal
Tel. No.: 656-6838

CEBU:
G/F OLS Building,
443 Gorordo Avenue cor. Rosal St.,
Lahug, Cebu City
Tel. No.: (032) 231-5856

IMUS:
G/F Ilano Building,
Nueño Boulevard,
Imus, Cavite
Tel. No.: (046) 472-1449

SAN PABLO:
65 Rizal Avenue,
San Pablo City
Tel. No.: (049) 562-6874

NEW CALAMBA:
G/F J. Alcasid Business Center
National Highway, Brgy. Real,
Calamba, Laguna
Tel. No.: (049) 545-9021

CUBAO:
Fersal Building,
245 P. Tuazon Boulevard,
Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. No.: 421-0910

MAKATI:
Dolmar Gold Tower,
107 C. Palanca Street,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 864-8222

TAFT:
Joshua Center,
1428 Taft Avenue,
Ermita, Manila
Tel. No.: 525-7790



Sa Bilis at Dali,
Panalong-panalo Ka!

Business Hours: Mondays to Fridays 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. • Saturdays 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

BSP says peso forecast of foreign banks 'farfetched'

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

AS THE peso fell six centavos to \$2.95 to \$1 yesterday, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has assured the public that doomsday projections of some foreign banks that the peso would hit a low of 55 to 60 in the coming months was far-fetched.

"I don't see any of these happening. I think it is more likely to improve than deteriorate," BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said.

He said he believed the peso would recover closer to 50 by year's end.

At least two foreign banks have laid out their bets against the peso on the table. An economist of Standard Chartered Bank had said the local currency would depreciate to 55 to \$1 in the next three months.

Investment bank Barclays Capital had said the peso could dip to 60 to a greenback in the next six to 12 months because the country was not earning enough dollars from exports and investments to pay off imports and debts.

The peso hit a record intra-day low of 55.75 to \$1 and a closing low of 54.79 to \$1 during the last few days of the Estrada administration. Barclays' forecast meant the local currency would chart a new historic low.

Buenaventura said the public must be cautioned against believing these prophets of doom. He said Barclays was still insisting on its computation of the

country's short-term debts that were almost double than BSP's version.

"If the public wants to believe Barclays that the peso would hit 60, then they should buy

our CRPPs (currency risk protection program) forwards because we could sell dollars to

them at 54.50," the central bank chief said. The currency forward, Buenaventura

said, was a facility that could accommodate those who were bearish on the peso. However,

no oil company or large importer has bought dollars through the BSP facility.

A trader from a foreign bank said the peso fell because of mild supply problems still

caused by lingering uncertainties on the peace-and-order situation.

Experience the Power of Living God!

Rev. Dr. Lee Jae-Rock



2001 Philippines Church Leaders' Conference & Crusade

Rev. Dr. Lee Jae-Rock

- President, Manmin World Mission
- Representative, MANMIN TV
- President, The Christian World Revival Mission Association
- President, The National Evangelical Paper
- Chairman, Alliance Holiness Theological Seminary
- Senior Pastor, Manmin Joong-Ang Church

Conference : Sept. 26~27 / 9 AM / PICC

Crusade : Sept. 27~29 / 6 PM / Luneta Park

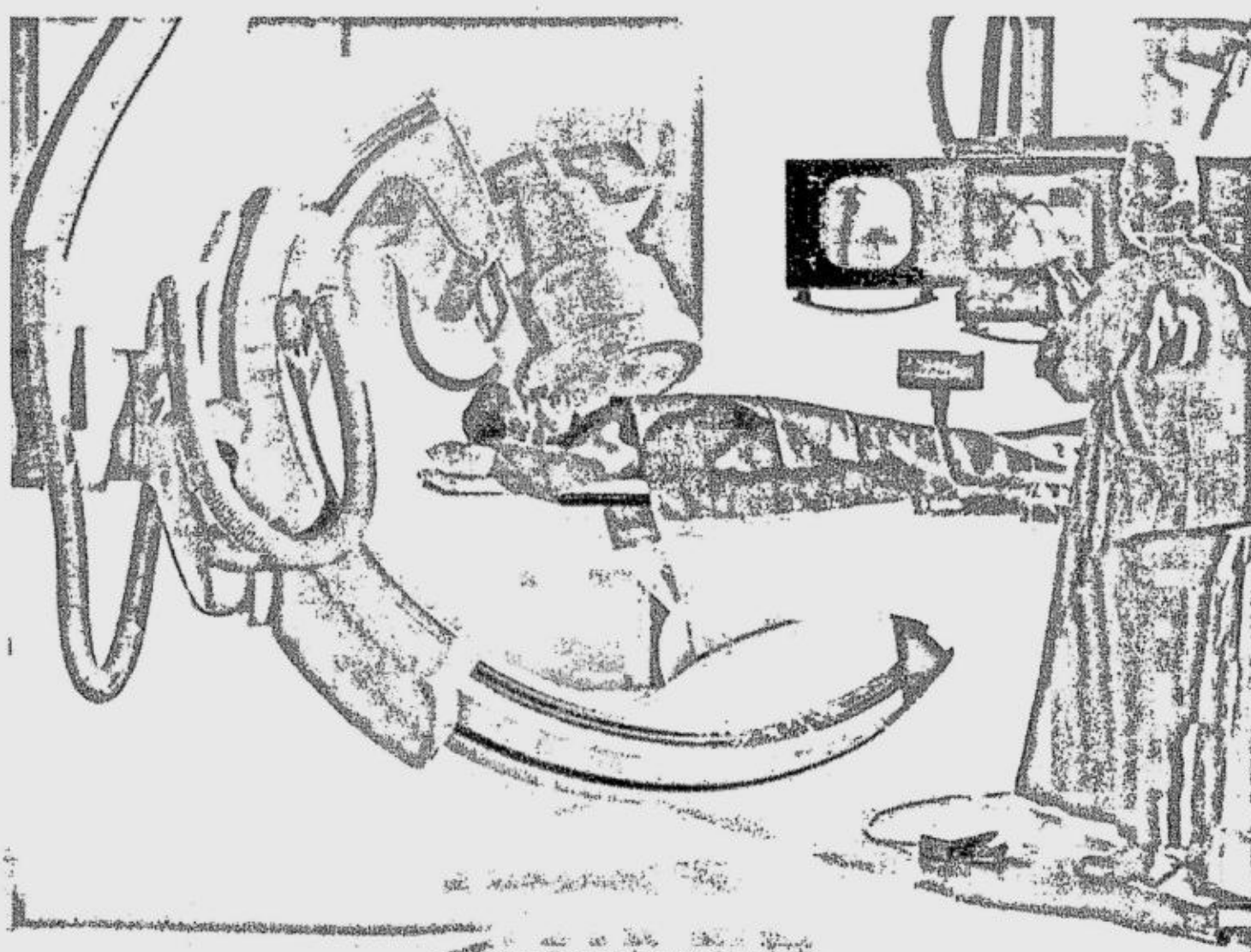


Sat 8:30 AM

MWM(Manila)
Tel) 667-7893 Fax) 667-0528
E-mail : mwmmanila@yahoo.co.kr

At the University of Santo Tomas Hospital, "Modern" and "Advanced" are words that accurately describe our Cardiovascular Catheterization and Intervention Unit.

We believe in the marriage of medical expertise and technology. Our doctors and patient care support staff are able to deliver the best medical service to you and your loved ones through the use of the latest equipment that technology can offer. Our Cardiovascular Catheterization and Intervention Unit is equipped with the state-of-the-art Philips Integris Allura imaging system allowing our doctors to provide highly accurate diagnosis to help you get better.



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS HOSPITAL
España, Manila

For further information, please call 749-9787 or visit www.usthospital.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION

Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
 8972333 (Direct) 8978808 (Toll-free)
 O/R ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
 8114370 8114370 8114370
 ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
 912 9039 912 9039 912 9039
 ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
 421 0343 421 0343 421 0343
 SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
 4350219 4350219 4350219
 Q/R TRINITY BLDG., 626 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
 5273427 5273427 5273427
 ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
 8504465 8504465 8504465
 e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
 P230 per column centimeter P65 per line
 (All prices exclusive of P.V.A.T.)
DEADLINES
 for reservations / cancellations / corrections
 Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon
 Sundays 12:00 noon
 Day before publication every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

VOSTO CLINIC T8175071
 MATRINCO BLDG. 2178 PTAMO
 MKT 9-2pm DR. GATAN

OPTOMETRIST

'99 Vanette 440T 631-3649

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

PAT Land Survey / PST Hse
 Plan / Bldg. Permit 7282605

CONSTRUCTION/DESIGN

We Build Houses 4178012

COSMETOLOGY

FACIAL SKINCARE
 Training/Workshop
 8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

BE SLIM 2443937

Lose Weight Safely 8376068

Slimming Program 521-9683

LEGAL

MARRIAGE ANNULMENT
 Professional Consultant
 532-4333 • 521-2677

MASSAGE

80% Crg 09197957919Jessa

ASK JAMES M/F 24 HRS SERVICES
 8521674 100% HOME

Ask DJ 0919-5973709 (M)

BUDDYFLEX MALE SERVICES
 CALL 5758150 M-SAT 1-10PM

Escort Masseuse Vinz 8513462

VIP-M/F 8312373 09193591771

REFLEXOLOGY

D'Millennium M/F T-9347633

Scorpion Massg 4372542

TUTORIAL LESSONS

LA LUZ 5268216/70

WESTERN TUTORIAL 7521756

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

BEST MAID 7111602/7115039

Efficient, Trained Maids
 873-5271 • 873-5062

★ ANNIVERSARY PROMO ★
 Lowest Office Fee
 Prov'l & City All Around

Maids Cook Yaya H's Boy
 Available Nationwide
 Las Pinas: 873-7057 • 872-0265
 Cubao: 912-4701 • 913-4235
 Zapote: 873-1433 • 873-7855
 Muntinlup: 897-5788 • 853-3505

Help Agency 5328376/5321947

Home Maid Specialist
 Call Tel. 660-4589

Low Rate Maid 9288862

Maids Drivers 3664375 4128599

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9280424•

L-BAHAY 8383742/6447599

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LIPAT BAHAY 713-0878/716-4177

LIPAT BAYAY 824-1227

•LIPAT-731-6833

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMM/RESID

MANILA

630.70 corner Blumentrit
 F.Huertas 4262998 Brito

PROVINCIAL

GEN. SANTOS CITY
 BEACH LINE 8 HAS. LOT
 Comm'l Indust'l 554-6185

PASIG

Ortigas 1-3BR Sale/ Rent
 412-1825 0917-7914366

HOUSE & LOT

Rizal VIII. H&L or Lot Only
 Call 534-6610 Jojo

ALABANG

Bel Air Bes. RKWL 560m²
 22M 4121825 09177914366

MAKATI

Mand. 234m² New Call 532-3936

MANDALUYONG

Grnd bnew 3br 2M 9487112

MARIKINA

VVerde 2 3BR 4car 17M
 Den 4121825 09177914366

PASIG

Acropolis 4br 4th 18-25M
 Call 633-7604/03

Baler QC L3000 w/Hse Rollin
 New Mla L625 V Lot New Mla
 L280 2Stry Call 129-1469

Corinthian San Juan 30M
 Neg. LA630m² • 658-2410

Loyola Heights Subd P8M
 T9840150 / 09194041057

Novallches 360T T9358850

Set Townhse Well Maintain
 P3.5M Only • 928-3267

Shoehorn Proj. 8, QC 203m²
 2sty w/attic • 928-3267

PROVINCIAL

3 LOTS 240 m2 per lot
 Mega Heights Subdivision
 P3,000 per square meter
 House and Lot 112 m2
 P1.5M Batangas City Contact
 CESAR 727-1270 local
 2271 or 2353

OTHER AREAS

CanyonWoods Btngas 7.5M
 ownrning neg0917-8143792

NoDP,2650/mo 09195898014

LOT

MANILA

A=847 Dart Pace 7401083

Near Espana Mla.
 142m² No Flood 20m Frontage
 P3.6M Call 925-8018

MARKINA

BAHAMAS STREET
 LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS
 600 sqm. @ P8700/sqm
 3711438 / 4123999 ofc hrs
 Text 0917-4158535

PARANAQUE

Exec. Hearts Brgy. Sunvalley
 LA306m² 2M 0917-8143792

QUEZON CITY

180m² Nvches Cal 4186212

Capitol Homes QC
 551sqm Call 0919-4227654

Nr. Baler SFDM QC 445m²
 V/Lot w/Fence • 928-3267

RIZAL

180m² FOLIAGE COTTONWDS
 T9118655 09178303972

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

OTHER AREAS

500m² TAGAYTAY CITY
 P107/m² T- (046)4314830

Val. City 300m² 1.7Mneg
 0917-3764508 T292-6001 Myrtle

CONDO/TOWNHSE/APT

W'hse 4 Sale/Rent 1000m²
 Call 534-6610 Jojo

FARM/FISHPEN

ECJA 114H 0917-4695869

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MANILA

Abad Santos 12T 7816319

QUEZON CITY

205 Spk Perez 7401083

MAKATI

SANLO 3BR 5268048/49

PARANAQUE

T A H A N A N
 VILLAGE, Paranaque
 3Bedrooms, 3Toilet & Bath-
 room. Office room, garage,
 very nice and newly reno-
 vated. Call VICKY
 EDGAR -Monday - Saturday
 between 9am-5pm.
 Tel no. 912-6620 / 437-6120

MAKATI
 BSA Mansion Studio Type
 10T Call 751-8342

BSA TWR 1BR FF 30T Bnew
 412-1825 • 0917-7914366

KWOOD Mktl 3BR3TB maid
 pr pkg 20T 8996632 Irene

Rockwell 35T 53sqm TCG
 915-5177 • 0917-5325440

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Highlands - Studio
 Unit 43sqm 815-0298

PARANAQUE

B'NEW Thse 3BR3TB w/attic
 w/2 terrace 2 car grge w/
 mdsrm Grn Hghts Subd.
 Sucat T7293757-59 (Mhnl)

PASIG

ORTIGAS CNTR 88m² 1BR
 20T Semi-lurn 412-1825

Renaissance 2000 Brand New
 FF w/Pkng Call 658-2115/16

QUEZON CITY

QC 4BR 3TB 932-8965 Nice

OTHER AREAS

Tiffany Mansion 2BR 25T
 /mo. FF No Pkg 815-0298

FOR LEASE

Along Mla. East Rd.
 600m² Call 658-2115/16

Coml Space 200m² nr QC
 Hall T922-4153 / 922-4150

Lots Along Valley Golf Rd.
 1.0 to 4.0 Call 658-2115/16

OFC SPACE ANGONO COR
 HORMIGA, MAKATI BESIDE
 CITYHALL 15T/mo 8103019

Ortigas Ofc 30 100-1200
 Sale /Rent 412-1825

ROOM & BOARD

2 Ldy West Ave 3T 4123048

Ideal 4 Dance Promo/Res
 w/tb kltchn Proj4 942-0612

BEDSPACE

LADIES 15TH CBD 9420612

BUSINESS RENTAL

295sqm Grd Flr - Ortigas
 Improved w/Mezz 815-0298

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TOWNHSE/APT

QUEZON CITY

Woodside NMla 915-5177
 Montgomery Nr. St. Lukes

FACTORY/WHSE

W'hse 4 Sale/Rent 1000m²
 Call 534-6610 Jojo

FARM/FISHPEN

ECJA 114H 0917-4695869

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MANILA

Abad Santos 12T 7816319

QUEZON CITY

205 Spk Perez 7401083

MAKATI

SANLO 3BR 5268048/49

PARANAQUE

T A H A N A N
 VILLAGE, Paranaque
 3Bedrooms, 3Toilet & Bath-
 room. Office room, garage,
 very nice and newly reno-
 vated. Call VICKY
 EDGAR -Monday - Saturday
 between 9am-5pm.
 Tel no. 912-6620 / 437-6120

MAKATI
 BSA Mansion Studio Type
 10T Call 751-8342

BSA TWR 1BR FF 30T Bnew
 412-1825 • 0917-7914366

KWOOD Mktl 3BR3TB maid
 pr pkg 20T 8996632 Irene

Rockwell 35T 53sqm TCG
 915-5177 • 0917-5325440

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Highlands - Studio
 Unit 43sqm 815-0298

PARANAQUE

B'NEW Thse 3BR3TB w/attic
 w/2 terrace 2 car grge w/
 mdsrm Grn Hghts Subd.
 Sucat T7293757-59 (Mhnl)

PASIG

ORTIGAS CNTR 88m² 1BR
 20T Semi-lurn 412-1825

Renaissance 2000 Brand New
 FF w/Pkng Call 658-2115/16

QUEZON CITY

QC 4BR 3TB 932-8965 Nice

OTHER AREAS

Tiffany Mansion 2BR 25T
 /mo. FF No Pkg 815-0298

FOR LEASE

Along Mla. East Rd.
 600m² Call 658-2115/16

Coml Space 200m² nr QC
 Hall T922-4153 / 922-4150

Lots Along Valley Golf Rd.
 1.0 to 4.0 Call 658-2115/16

OFC SPACE ANGONO COR
 HORMIGA, MAKATI BESIDE
 CITYHALL 15T/mo 8103019

Ortigas Ofc 30 100-1200
 Sale /Rent 412-1825

ROOM & BOARD

2 Ldy West Ave 3T 4123048

Ideal 4 Dance Promo/Res
 w/tb kltchn Proj4 942-0612

BEDSPACE

LADIES 15TH CBD 9420612

BUSINESS RENTAL

295sqm Grd Flr - Ortigas
 Improved w/Mezz 815-0298

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BUSINESS RENTAL

3FLOORS COM'L APT 3612663
 G/F Ayala Ave. 818-1696

MALATE OFFICES 5268048

P. TAMO 8525295 5479610

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

BMW 320i 92i Sun roof,
 cont. 225/40 BBS18" car-
 phone stereo w/bass tube
 10" 500Watts, full M3 kit
 89Tkm, beige 751-2849

HONDA



Get
your
career
off
the
ground.

JOBMarket
ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com



Republic of the Philippines SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

East Ave., Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 920-6401 • (632) 920-6446
E-mail: sssemall@info.com.ph • Web site: http://www.sss.gov.ph
Visit the SSS website for Bid Invitations

INVITATION TO BID

RENOVATION WORKS

The SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM is inviting General Contractors for the renovation of the existing buildings on the SSS property in Las Piñas (formerly Vac-Phil Property).

The scope of work covers civil, architectural, electrical, mechanical, sanitary, landscaping and other miscellaneous works to complete the project. Prospective bidders should have valid license and classification issued by the Philippine Contractor Accreditation Board (PCAB) including registration and classification of contractors for government infrastructure.

1. PCAB License - Category "AA" General Building
2. PCAB Registration - Large "A" for Building

List of pre-qualification requirements must be obtained from the PBAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, SSS Main Building, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City with telephone numbers 922-2991 and 920-6401 local 2379/2380, upon presentation of letter of intent and/or original and valid license, size/range and kind of project issued by PCAB. The deadline of submission of pre-qualification documents is on 18 July 2001, at the same address.

The SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, to waive any formality or technicality, and to award to any bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to the System. The SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM neither assumes any obligation for any loss whatsoever that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of their respective bids, nor does the System guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **HORACIO T. TEMPLO**
Executive Vice-President
& Chairman, Pre-qualification,
Bidding & Award Committee

(PDI - July 11, 2001)



**RISE E-COMMERCE
SYSTEMS**

REGULAR INCOME OPPORTUNITIES...

THE RISE E-COMMERCE SYSTEMS' CONSUMERS EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM!!!

CONTRIBUTE TO NATION-BUILDING BY INCREASING YOUR PURCHASING POWER AND HAVE REGULAR INCOME THROUGH MUTUAL SHARING.... PLUS READY ACCESS TO....

- ✓ REGULAR TRAININGS IN YOUR DESIGNATED BUSINESS CENTER
- ✓ GLOBAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND INCOME GENERATING PROJECTS
- ✓ OTHER BENEFITS THROUGH CONTINUOUS LINKAGES AND COOPERATION

AND WE ARE MAKING IT EVEN MORE ACCESSIBLE BY SETTING UP BUSINESS CENTERS NEAREST YOU....

Call or visit them (here is the partial list of our CENTERS):

Marikina City BCOs
RISE E-COMMERCE MARIKINA
Rm 302 #51 Baybayanan Avenue
Marikina Heights, Marikina City
Tel No. (02) 934-7764
Cellphone No. 0919-394-9151

RISE MKV
MS. LILIAN REYES
1550 I Mendoza Street, San Roque, Marikina City
Cellphone No. 0919-212-3230

Taguig BCO
RISE GLOBAL CITY TAGUIG
MS. REGINA C. VELASCO
#255 UB GHO Zone 1-C Signal, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tel No. (02) 639-1133
Cellphone No. 0919-819-5999

Laguna Contact Address:
MS. LUDITH GABRIEL
Dolan Metropolitan Plaza
Commercial and Community Market
Brgy. Tubigan, Brgy. Laguna
Tel. No. (049) 639-1133
Cellphone No. 0919-819-5999

Commonwealth BCO
RISE COMMONWEALTH GROUP
MS. OFELIA J. BALLESTA
620 Orapaga Street, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
Tel No. 935-2490, 428-0940

Navalutes BCO
RISE E-NOVALICHES
MS. EMMA C. DANIEL
#18 Sta. Rosa Street, Villa Magdalena 2, Camarin Road
Navalutes, Caloocan City
Tel No. 953 6348, Cellphone No. 0919-308-2387

Pandacan BCO
RISE CHIT-PANDACAN
MS. NECTIA D. SALVINO
1941 A. Sampaguita Street, Pandacan, Manila
Tel No. 591-0605

Luzon BCO
RISE EXCEL-PANGASINAN
MR. MANUEL G. VALDEZ
Nancyayan, Urdaneta City
Tel No. (075) 505-5110, Cellphone No. 0917-447-3200

RISE DAQUAN GROUP
MS. EMILY SORIANO - Tel No. (075) 522-5378
MS. IMELDA SARMIENTO - Tel No. (075) 515-0755
#43 Perez Boulevard, Daquigan City
Cellphone Nos. 0917-305-4775, 0919-694-0784

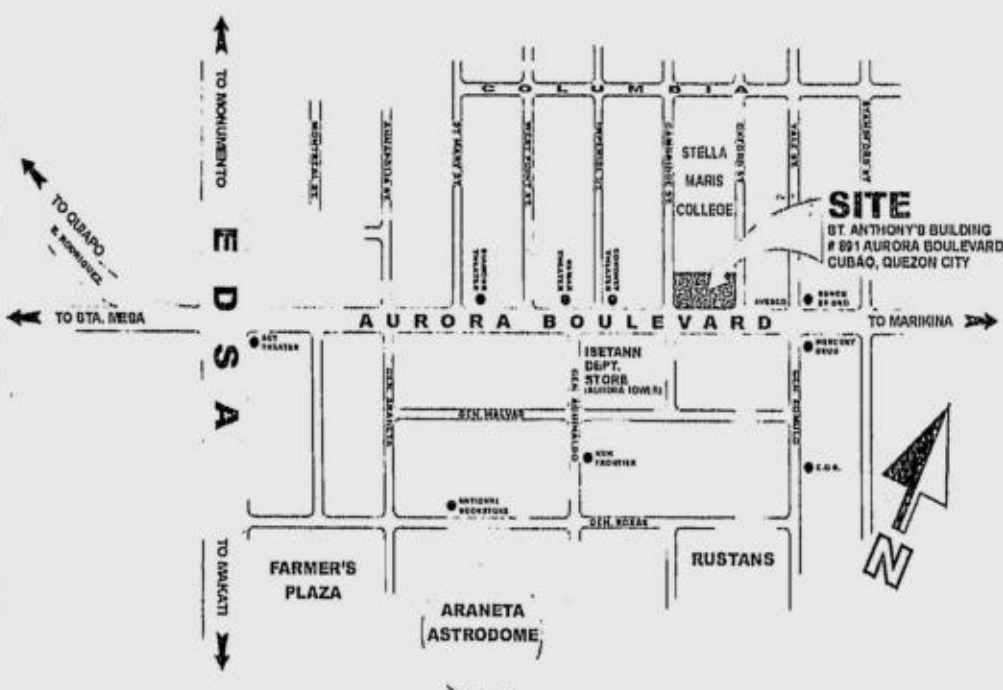
Western Visayas/Panay Island BCO
RISE ILOILO
MR. WILLIAM A. FEROLINO
2nd Floor, AMIGO PLAZA, Inland Street, Iloilo City
Tel No. (033) 337-9292, Cellphone No. 0917-514-1309

Applicants for Business Center & Sub-Center Operations (BCO/SCO) in other cities/areas may visit/contact RISE GROUP OF COMPANIES at Suite 1906, 19/F, Galleria Corporate Center, Ortigas Complex, Pasig City, Tel. No. 687-4311; CP No. 0919-552-4258, 0919-212-3230; E-mail: risephilippines@hotmail.com

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your Classified Ads requirements.

For inquiries,
please call **421-1420** or **421-0343**.



Philippine Fast Ferry Corporation

VALUED SUPERCAT PASSENGERS:

FOLLOWING A SERIES OF FUEL PRICE INCREASES, AND AFTER ABSORBING CONSIDERABLE LOSSES RESULTING FROM THE SAID INCREASES, WE HAVE RESORTED TO ADJUSTING OUR RATES IN ORDER FOR US TO SUSTAIN OUR OPERATIONS.

A MINIMAL 5% ADJUSTMENT HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 26, 2001:

Cebu - Ormoc	P	430.00
Cebu - Tagbilaran		340.00
Cebu - Dumaguete		450.00
Cebu - Dapitan		785.00
Cebu - Larena		600.00
Tagbilaran - Dumaguete		370.00
Tagbilaran - Dapitan		630.00
Tagbilaran - Larena		495.00
Dumaguete - Dapitan		335.00
Dumaguete - Larena		150.00

OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE BEST IN COMFORT AND SAFETY COMES WITH EVERY MOVE WE MAKE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PATRONAGE.

PHILIPPINE FAST FERRY CORPORATION - SUPERCAT

For your Classified Ads
requirements, call our
Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

HEAD OFFICE

897-8808 loc. 514, 516
899-4425, 897-2535
897-8425 (Telefax)

CUBAO

421-0343 (Aurora)
912-9008 to 11 (Ali Mall)

MAKATI

892-5578, 811-4361
811-4370

KALAW

528-0213, 527-3342

MEGAMALL

635-0219, 635-0220



INQUIRER

RiViA

By BONG BARRAMEDA

On the button

Q. Why do men button from the right, women from the left?

A. Custom. Men usually dressed themselves, and because most men are right-handed, buttoning from the right made sense. Also, long before the pistol or revolver were invented, the scabbard hanging from the belt on the left side. In order that the coats or jackets they wore could easily be unbuttoned by the left hand and allow the right hand to unsheath the sword freely and easily, their apparel should be buttoned on the right. On the other hand, women who could afford the expensive buttons of the day were more often dressed by maids, and maids found it easier to work from their right, the wearer's left. Tailors complied, and the convention stuck.

For the Record. Buttons did not originate as clothes fasteners. They were decorative, jewelry-like disks sewn on men's and women's clothing. The earliest types date from about 2000 B.C. and were unearthed at archeological digs in the Indus Valley in Southern Asia. It was only in the 13th century that the modern, functional button was invented in Europe.

Take a Tip. Got a grease stain on your dress? Rub chalk on the grease spot, let it absorb the oil, then brush off. If the stain lingers, rub chalk into it again before laundering.

WORD WATCH

Tisa: from the Spanish tiza, 'chalk.'

PDI - July 11, 2001



National Power Corporation
Generation Company 1
161 Bonifacio Drive Port Area, Manila 1018

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

(PQ0301RCC-002)

The GENCO-1 Regional Contracts Committee (RCC) is inviting contractors to prequalify and to bid for the SUPPLY OF ONE (1) SERVICE ENGINEER FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE TEST OF TWO INDUCED DRAFT FANS (IDF's), TWO FORCED DRAFT FANS (FDF's) AND TWO PRIMARY AIR FANS (PAF's) OF BATANGAS COAL-FIRED THERMAL POWER PLANT UNIT NO. 1.

Application for prequalification is open to all local firms who have completed at least five service contracts of major fans of Coal-Fired Thermal Power Plants with a capacity of not less than 300MW.

Prequalification Forms shall be available for issuance starting July 4 to 17, 2001 at the Contracts Management Office (CMO), 3rd Floor, NPC GENCO-1 Building, 161 Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila. Applicants shall be issued Prequalification Form upon presentation of original copy of the applicant's DTI and/or SEC Certificate, together with the Letter of Intent and payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00) per copy.

For purposes of prequalification and bidding activities, the following schedule will be observed:

- Submission of Prequalification Documents - July 20, 2001 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Issuance of Bid Documents - August 01, 2001 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Pre-bid Conference - August 03, 2001 - 10:00 AM
- Submission and Opening of Bids - August 14, 2001 - 10:00 AM

The NPC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason; waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is the most advantageous to the Corporation. The NPC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparations of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **LORNA T. DY**
Department Manager, Professional Services
And Chairman, RCC

(PDI - July 4, 7 & 11, 2001)

**Your connection
to better people,
better jobs.**

JOBMarket
ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION

Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
 ☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Toll-free)
 ☎ 8972535 (Toll-free) ☎ 8978808 (Toll-free)
 ☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012
 ALLIANCE, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY ☎ 912-9008
 ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY ☎ 421-0343
 ☎ 421-1470 ☎ 421-0343
 SAN MARIANO, MANDALUYONG CITY ☎ 6350220
 ☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008
 O.P. TRINITY BLDG., 436 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA ☎ 5273342
 ☎ 5273342 ☎ 5273357
 ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY ☎ 8504445
 e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

RATE
 P230 per column centimeter
 (All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
 for reservations / cancellations / corrections
 Monday to Sunday
 12:00 noon
 Day before publication

OBITUARIES

"Father, into Your hands I commend my spirit."
 Luke 23:46

LUIS B. POLO, JR.

of San Jose, Camarines Sur and Naga City

Peacefully joined our Lord on 09 July 2001 at the age of 85.

His bereaved wife Tomasita; children Floranie and Monico Jacob, Lily Ann, Luis III and Emily Fuentebella, Wynne Rose and Alfonso de Guzman; grandchildren Angel, Mikel and Rhea, Raffa, Laila, Isis, Luigi, Franco and Inaki; great grandchildren Arielle and Kayla Louise; sisters, brother, in-laws, nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Santuario de San Jose Parish Hall, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City.

Interment will be on Saturday, July 14, 2001 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Santuario de San Jose.

MANUEL R. CASAL (Sculptor)

June 10, 1925 - July 9, 2001

His loving wife Aurita; children Lito, Ronnie, Joey, Jamin, Ricky, Bambi, Nancy and Menchie; brother Carlos; sisters Gloria, Ester and Baby, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Christ The King Church in Green Meadows, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Friday, July 13, 2001 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Mandaluyong Cemetery, Mandaluyong City.

A & C MARKETING CO., INC.

WOODCHEM INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION

Mourns with deep sorrow the demise of

KHO LIONG PU

(aka VICENTE CO)

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord on July 6, 2001 at the age of 78.

We join his bereaved family, wife SIU TIOK; children Joseph & Tina, Marcos & Helen, Tony, Benny & Marian, Jimmy & Lota, Johnny & Sandra, Victor & Carol, and Vicky; grandchildren, brothers, sisters, in-laws, relatives, friends, and pious readers in their prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Felicidad Chapel, Arlington Memorial Chapels, Amneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 15, 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park, Dasmariñas, Cavite.

"From darkness let the light shine!"

Genesis 1:3

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6



An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ① Copy of Death Certificate ② Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL

12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
 Tels. 715-1025, 715-1031, 715-1027

ARLINGTON EAST

Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City
 Tels. 747-8599, 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1790

CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.

1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
 Tel. 732-0309, 732-1095

CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.

Cebu Branch
 A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
 Tels. 346-2543, 346-2601

COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City Tels. 231-0721, 231-3182

COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City
 Tels. (082) 227-1201, 227-1258

DAYAO FUNERAL HOME

#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
 Tels. 740-2683, 751-3705, 751-3686;
 413-9400, 715-5594

DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES

#42 Upper Katakian, Olongapo City
 Tels. (047) 222-3605, (047) 811-1095;
 (047) 222-4512, (047) 224-2014

DON BOSCO CHAPELS

Pasay Road, Makati City Tel. 884-5932 to 34

DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES

Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Drakipunan St.,
 Marugit, Manila

FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME

219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
 Tels. 2812953, 2813034, 2810522

FUNERARIA PANGILINAN

Santo Enrique cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
 Tels. (045) 888-2059, (045) 322-5247

F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES

13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City
 Tels. 646-1723, 646-1730

FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIGOUE

No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
 Tels. 642-3010, 633-3607

GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK

Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila
 Tels. 642-6181 to 82

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS

Sucal, Parañaque City Tels. 825-1296, 825-1291

LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN

#27 Ceresojo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
 Tel. 722-2730; Cell (0917) 5680136; (0917) 5680145
 Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City. Tel. 434-3258

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapa, Manila;
 Tels. 711-6931 to 35, 732-4795

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kalmay St., Quezon City;
 Tels. 745-3605 to 11

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

79 Naguilan Rd., Baguio City Tel. (074) 443-3337

LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS

EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City
 Tel. 885-1011 to 19

MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS

Marcos Highway, Antipolo, Rizal
 Tels. 645-1855, 682-0209, 682-0210

MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Arelano St., Dagupan City
 Tels. (075) 515-5950, 515-5529, (0919) 348-7131

NATIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES

264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
 Tels. 713-5231 to 35, 714-0867, 714-0868

ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.

Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St.
 Mandalagan, Bacolod City Tel. 433-7132

RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES

438 Camerina St., Pasay City Tels. 831-1204

SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH

East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
 Telefax 724-4139, 725-2044

ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH

Magallanes Village, Makati City
 Tels. 852-6228, 852-7284

ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

16-15 G. Tuzon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
 Tels. 749-3678, 781-1772

ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES

256 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
 Tels. 372-5084, 410-9288/87

VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES

Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
 Tels. 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801, 845-4836

People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA,
 Assistant Editor



UNIQUE OLD MANILA AMBIENCE BY THE BAY

Filipino regional cuisine and fresh seafood are the specialty at Pantalan Restaurant located at the Luneta Park, overlooking Manila Bay. Built like an old Manila mansion with half-painted stone walls, Pantalan has a boardwalk, the open-air section with a view of Manila Bay that most diners prefer, specially in the breezy evenings. The restaurant has an air-conditioned dining area and accepts functions for special occasions as well.



P&G DONATES TO PNRC

Procter & Gamble (P&G) recently donated over P1 million worth of Safeguard and other products to the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) for the Mayon volcano victims. Shown during the turnover rites are (from left) PNRC governor Mario Nery; PNRC secretary general Lourdes R. Loyola; P&G director of external relations and general counsel for Asean, Australia and India (AAI) lawyer Ed Imperial; P&G finance director, market and customer operations (AAI) Ysmael Baysa; and Ma. Celeste Mutuc, P&G associate finance director.

J&J midwives award

THE NATIONWIDE search for the country's exceptional midwives is now on with the launching of the 8th Johnson & Johnson Outstanding Midwives Award of the Philippines. Organized by the Integrated Midwives Association of the Philippines (Imap) Inc. and supported by the Johnson & Johnson affiliate companies, the award program was launched recently at the DOH with Dr. Manuel M. Dayrit as guest of honor. Nomination forms midwives award are available at the Imap Metro Manila headquarters, regional and local chapters, as well as from Perceptions Inc. at the third floor of Fortune Office Building, 160 Legaspi Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City. Completed forms should be submitted to Imap local chapter by July 15 or to the Imap national headquarters by July 31. Ten winners will be awarded during the Imap National Convention to be held in Batac, Ilocos Norte in October. For more information, call Imap at (02) 724-4849 or Robert Po of Perceptions at (02) 891-3556/3485/3396.

Customer contact World 2001

THE CUSTOMER Contact World Conference and trade exhibit to be held July 11 to 13 at the Shangri-La Makati Hotel in Makati City promises to demonstrate how business leaders and entrepreneurs alike stand to gain increased profitability and better customer loyalty through the use of integrated information and channels. Organized by the Australian media solutions firm Terrapinn, Customer Contact World is the Philippines' only customer relationship management and call center event that promises attendees from all sectors of business the opportunity to learn the newest techniques in customer management. All Asia Customer Services Inc. (ACS) is the event's official call center. Interested conference attendees and exhibitors may call Creative Answers Consultancy at 256-8354 or 0919-3419824 for registration details.

Paco new CDI Sakata Inx president



PACO

THE CDI Sakata Inx Corp. board of directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Bernadino C. Paco as its company president. Paco has had extensive experience expanding nearly four decades in CDI Sakata. Prior to this new appointment, he was the executive vice president and chief operating officer. Having joined CDI Sakata as printing ink technologist, Paco rose from the ranks to assume various positions in plant operations, marketing and general management. He is credited with having steered the export sales of various printing inks, metal coatings and glass enamel to the People's Republic of China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and other Asian countries. He has been the president of various industry organizations.

3-Day Sale Storm at Sta. Lucia

STA. LUCIA East Grand Mall again holds the three-day Sale Storm on July 13 to 15. A rain of discounts will come pouring in at the mall's specialty and boutiques, SLE Department Store, Home Gallery, Supermarket, SLE Essentials and Planet Toys. Dive into piles of fashionable items, homewares and gifts galore as discount drizzles of up to 50 percent on selected items mall-wide happen. Shop with no limits, as you buy more, the more chances you have of winning any of the five Ericsson cellphones at stake.



JONES, LANG LASALLE EXEC AT SIRCRO MEET

Monique Pronova, associate director of international realty firm Jones, Lang LaSalle, discussed "The Asian Markets: Concerns, Prospects and Unique Solutions" during the recent meeting of The Society of Realtors (Sircro) at the 25th floor of Ayala Tower One. She is shown receiving a gift of appreciation from president Arnold Canaria (Filinvest Industrial), flanked by Eric Soriano (ERA Phil.) and Andrew Birch (Arthur Andersen-Australia). Sircro, founded in 1980, is a limited membership guild of top realty professionals in the field of commercial, industrial and residential developments.



XENICAL SYMPOSIUM

Roche Phils. Inc. recently held a symposium "Lose weight. Gain life. The Xenical Difference." The event capped the weight loss drug's second year in the country. Xenical is the first and only non-systemically acting weight management agent that has continually proven to promote significant weight loss and maintenance, and to improve associated health risks. Since its introduction, Xenical has more than 8.5 million patient treatments worldwide. The symposium, which presented new data on Xenical and testimonials from Xenical users, was held at the Manila Hotel. Shown were (from right) guest speakers Dr. Arthur Campfield, president of the North American Association for the study of overweight and obesity; Dr. Rosa Allyn Sy, Philippine Association for the Study of Overweight and Obesity vice president; Dr. May Donato Tan, cardiologist; and Dr. Elizabeth Paz Pacheco, endocrinologist.

How to negotiate with your boss

BY ERNIE O. CECILIA

HAVE you ever tried negotiating with your boss regarding your performance appraisal, salary increase, promotion, or other career matters? Did you sense that the playing field was not exactly level? Did you wish you had a better preparation before you negotiated with your boss?

Negotiating skill is one of the most important competencies of the global Pinoy in the new economy. The career-oriented person will always need this unique and essential skill as he negotiates through his career life. Truly, one of the most difficult negotiating situations is when you face your boss.

Here is Negotiation 101 for the yuppies and umppies of the new workplace:

1. Choose your own battleground. Engage only in wars worth fighting for and those you can win. Choose the issues worth negotiating for. Give your boss little victories by obeying him and having his way. But on issues where your career is at stake, never waver—negotiate with your boss.

2. Believe in your cause and stand for it. Make sure you believe in your cause before you face your boss. If you are halfhearted about it, forget it. Once you take issue at anything worth negotiating for, go for it all the way.

3. Set reasonably high negotiation goals. Superficial goals lead to superficial results. The funny thing about goals is that when you put your heart into them, you usually achieve them. Make negotiation worth your while by setting high but reasonably achievable goals. After negotiating, don't have the "I-should-have-asked-for-more" feeling.

4. Start with agreements; never rush into confrontations. When you face your boss at the negotiating table, start with agreements. Do not rush into issues that will make the boss confrontational and adversarial. Have more common ground before discussing differences.

5. Get your facts right; don't rely on hearsay. Information is power—have it and use it. If you don't have your facts right, you could be blown into smithereens when the boss presents his facts-based arguments. Do a thorough research, get documents, ask the people who know, investigate and never rely on hearsay.

6. Focus on opportunities, not on problems. When discussing issues, focus more on solutions and opportunities. If you agree that there is a problem, quickly shift discussion to possible solutions and opportunities. Present studied and well thought of solutions. Don't pretend to have all the solutions. Never offer solutions where there are no problems.

7. In a negotiation, asking the right questions is very important. Ask the wrong questions and you'll get the wrong answers. Wrong questions lead to wrong answers. I've seen people ask silly questions for which they were not ready with a retort from the other side. Moreover, bosses don't savor being interrogated, so be careful when asking questions.

8. Quick decisions are not always the best decisions. You don't have to give your decision right away, if you are not sure. Sue for time and study your position and that of your boss. When you resume discussion, you are better prepared with your decision. When you are pressured to decide right there and then, chances are you can't make the best decisions.

9. If you lose your nerve, you'll lose the game. In negotiating, composure is very important. When you lose it, you'll lose focus and your chance to achieve your negotiating goal. Moreover, it is never wise to lose your temper or your nerve when the boss is on the other side of the table.

10. Don't compromise—adapt. When you have differences, the path to least resistance is to compromise. Instead of compromising, stop a while and think of alternatives closer to your goals. Adapt to what the boss suggests and repackage it. A compromise might not sound too much of a win-win situation.

11. The boss' per-

ception is reality. You are not remembered by what you did but by what your boss thinks you did. Be quick to correct wrong impressions or perceptions of your boss. Nothing beats presenting facts and figures on your performance. Third party commendations and other documents help create the right perception. Be perceptive about how you are perceived by your boss.

12. Never depend on luck. Bad luck is an excuse for failure. Preparation, hard work, tenacity, and positive attitude will make you win. The funny thing is that when you have all these, you tend to be lucky, too.

13. Press for victory, but be ready for stalemate. You negotiate for a purpose. Press for achievement of that purpose, but don't be too stubborn. Be prepared for a stalemate. It is not defeat but a postponement of victory, if you know how to deal your cards right.

14. You are responsible for your own future. No one, much less your boss, can do for you what you neglect to do for yourself. You can't blame anybody else for your state of affairs. Use others, including your boss, to get to where you want to be. In the end, you are responsible for yourself.

15. Don't make an enemy out of your boss.

Courtesy, warmth and honesty can captivate even the most oppressive foe. Never antagonize your boss. If you are right, you don't have to. If you are wrong, you can't afford to. After the negotiation, you will have to work with each other. Here's a friendly advice—take care of your boss now, the next could be worse.

If you want to survive, or even succeed, in the new workplace, learn to negotiate your way through the corporate ladder. Your boss could be your best instrument in moving up the ladder. He could also be your worst stumbling block. The bad news is that he is your boss. The good news is that you can negotiate with your boss if you know how. In fact, you should learn to manage your boss as well.

(The author is president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center. His books "How to Get a Job," "How to Keep Your Job" and "99 Common Blunders in Negotiation" are available at National Bookstore, Powerbooks and Bookmark. E-mail comments and reactions to emic@edsamail.com.ph. Watch out for the People at Work Live! Seminars on "Negotiating Skills" to be conducted by Ernie Cecilia in August. Call Rochelle at 8978808 loc. 554 for details.)

Press for victory, but be ready for stalemate

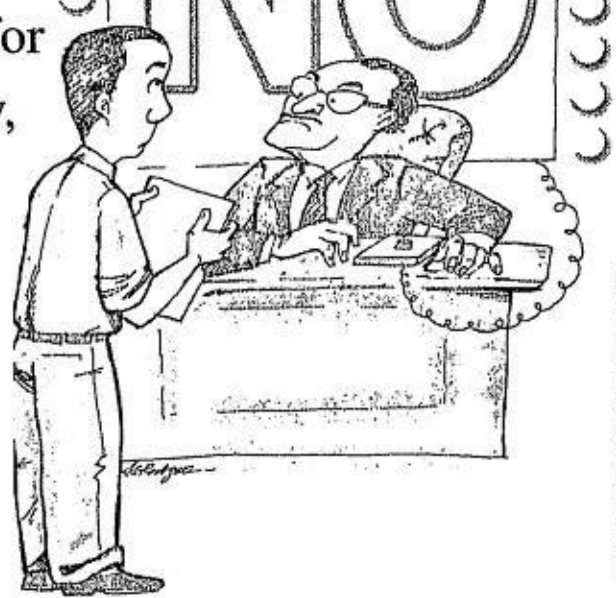


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ



bundle of joy



Go googoo over hp and Pacific Internet's "Print and Surf" promo. Buy an hp DeskJet 840 or DeskJet 930 printer and enjoy easy access to Pacific Internet in two ways!

Package A. Get 5 free hours trial internet access:

1. To activate the bonus hours, fax/submit the following to any Pacific Internet outlet:
 - Copy of activation form
 - Copy of Proof of Purchase (Official Receipt)
2. A Pacific Internet Customer Care representative shall process the account upon receiving the completed requirements, and will call the customer to confirm his/her user name and password.
3. The 5 hour trial period is valid only within 5 days from activation.

OR Package B. Get 15 bonus hours upon sign-up:

1. To activate the bonus hours, fax/submit the following to any Pacific Internet outlet:
 - Copy of activation form
 - Copy of Proof of Purchase (Official Receipt)
 - Photocopy of a valid ID (student/employment ID, driver's license, passport, etc.)
 - Any recent proof of billing (utility, cable, credit card, cellular phone, pager, etc.)
2. A Pacific Internet Customer Care representative shall process the account upon receiving the completed requirements, and will call the customer to confirm his/her user name and password.
3. Bonus hours will be credited to the 3rd, 6th, and 9th month of the subscriber's Pacific Internet account (5 hours per month). Activation fee worth P935.00 will be waived.
4. Excess usage of the internet account will be charged P66.00 per hour, or P16.50 per 15 minute block.
5. Non-payment of dues shall result in suspension. Suspension within the promo period forfeits free hours from this promo.
6. No downgrades during the promo period will be allowed.
7. No carryovers of unused hours will be allowed.
8. This promo cannot be combined with any other bundling promo.
9. Minimum sign-up period is 12 months.

Promo period is from July 1 to August 31, 2001.

Promo available to non-Pacific Internet subscribers only. Only one promo package is allowed per printer purchase. Promo can be claimed within sixty days after the promo period.



DEALERS LIST: CBX, Columbia Computer, CompLink Marketing, Digital Interface, Electroworld, Hytech Integrated, Kraza, Lenon Marketing, Microtech Corp., Nexgen, Premium Logic, The Computer Authority (TCA), Thinking Tools, Total Quality Machines (TQM), Villman, and other HP dealers.



www.hp.com

Per DTI-MCR Permit No. 2020 Series of 2001

PEOPLE at WORK

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ REGINA GALANG REYES, Subsection Editor

'I got fired through e-mail'

BY RESTY S. ODON

IT WAS a baptism of fire like no other—getting fired the first time in your first job. Talk about real world as the toughest university.

I had applied for a writing job in a Makati-based firm and I was one of the few who made it. The exams were tough, the toughest I've ever taken in my entire life, but I enjoyed them immensely for the test items were stuff I was sort of born into: spelling, grammar and vocabulary, geography, reading comprehension, memory assessment and writing.

Batches and batches of hopefuls, from fresh grads to fortysomethings, took the battery of tests, but most of them went home crestfallen. As for me, I knew I was gonna make it because I was a despicable nerd who treated information trivia like they were God's word. Luckily, I also passed the interview in spite of myself.

And so one day, I found myself listening to our lady boss together

with two Ateneo grads, a University of Hawaii English major of Filipino descent (what was she doing here, with our unemployment rate?) and an intimidating professional writer from a local magazine. They all spoke straight English and the last person knew how to speak Japanese, having recently studied in Japan. Coming from UP Baguio with a plebeian background, I felt like the proverbial square peg in a round hole.

But who cared? I needed this job so much. I was tired of living like a parasite and this was my chance to move up the food chain. And so I enjoyed it as much as I could, notwithstanding all the attendant faux pas. I felt like I was living in the States. (The department would later come to be known as the English

Channel, owing to the preponderance of people working there who only spoke straight English, what with an American CEO always doing the rounds.)

I enjoyed a LAN-ed work environment with a Gothic motif. Cool, I knew I was home. Receiving memos and notes from our boss via the computer excited me no end. We used software that was so user-friendly.

We trainees were promised six months of training and a litany of benefits that would make my mother happy. The word "training" for me was a period of learning and so I wasn't afraid to make mistakes. However, "training" to them meant an extension of the exams. It was inevitable, therefore, for me to receive one morning in my computer a mail titled "Regret." It started off with

"I regret to inform you that..." It hit me like a stun gun. It was at least hours before I got back to my senses.

After only a month of training, I got fired via the computer, via the local area network I was boasting to my cousins at home about. The impersonality of the electronic slap hurt the most. All around me that day, there was only silence but in my mind, I could hear a megaphone announcing my dispensability, telling me to get out and get out quick.

I walked out of the danged place with almost nary a goodbye to my batch mates. Soon, I felt cold with the mere mention of high tech for I blamed it for relegating me once again to parasitic status.

That was about seven years ago but still, things haven't changed much. Through the years, I would witness around me the popularity of "casualized" labor, union busting, and other sophisticated strategies to tell lowly employees how dispensable they are while deftly exploring the loopholes of the law to come up with a pathetically con-

trived way of running a business.

If this is what they call real world, I should have stayed a student forever where the university is the universe.

Where is man's humanity in the modern workplace? Did we shape our tools in order for these to shape us thereafter, like one philosopher said?

My former boss fired me in my first job could have told me the plain truth early on. More importantly, she should have delivered her message of termination personally. Maybe,

she thought the impersonality of a computer would lessen the sting, but she was dead wrong. Instead, she gave me my first taste of the Real World: A might whack on my newly grad butt.

(E-mail contributions to Postcards to reyes@inquirer.com.ph.)



ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BEAVO

FREE HEADSET FOR EVERY NOKIA 3330 PACKAGE PURCHASED. ONLY FROM AUTHORIZED NOKIA DEALERS.

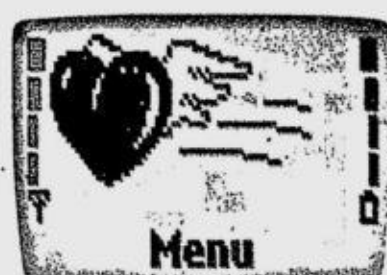
NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE



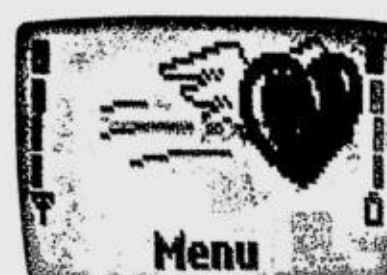
See the heart...



See the heart move...



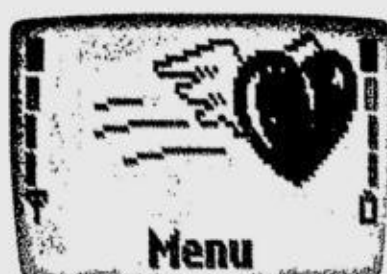
left...



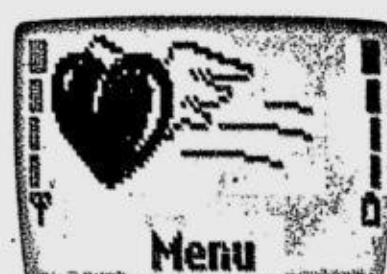
and right...



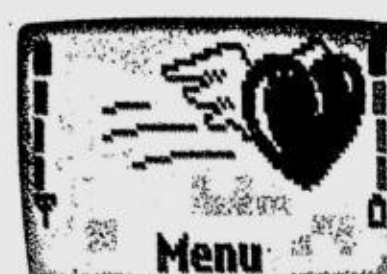
left...



and right...



left...



and right...



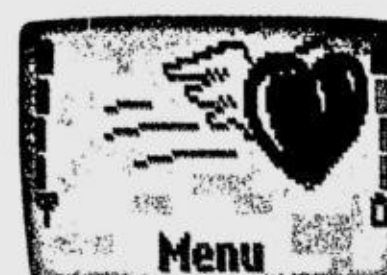
left...



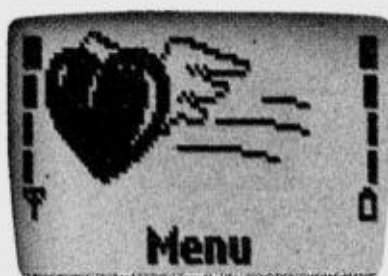
and right...



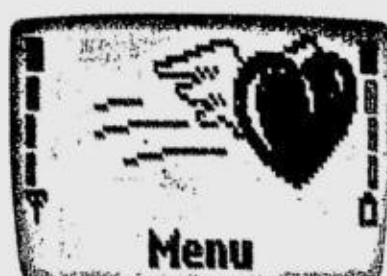
left...



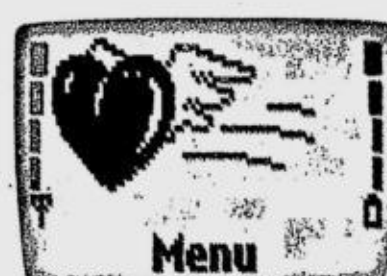
and right...



left...



and right...



left...



and right...

Get mesmerized with Animated Screen Savers that move to action with the new Nokia 3330.

New features: New game, BUMPER • Animated Screen Savers • Fun WAP Browsing* • Cut and paste pictures from WAP page • Phonebook Memory for 100 Names
Other features: Lightweight Lithium-Ion Battery • Voice-dialling • Stylish Design • Composer • Personal Profiles • Reminders • Mobile Chat • Compatible with GlobeXplore and Smart zed SIM packs

*Network dependent

www.nokia-asia.com

As an assurance of quality, purchase only from authorized Nokia dealers. For more information, please call the Nokia helpdesk at (02) 886-1234.



2bU! LIFESTYLE

For feedback or suggestions to 2bu@inquirer.com.ph

Shoot that ball

2bU! fastbreaks to this year's UAAP basketball season and scores with features on the teams, the heartthrobs, the coaches and even the fans



Conversation with top UAAP players

BY JULES ALCANTARA
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

It was a tall order (excuse the pun) to gather all of them at one table and keep them seated. Recently, 2bU! had dinner with some of the top UAAP players in the country. It was a blessing then that National Sports Grill was huge and spacious and there was enough leg room (not to mention high ceiling) for the stiff neck-inducing players.

Initially, we thought they would be uncomfortable with one another. It is hard to be congenial with a bunch of brawny players, especially if you will be banging and bruising each other in a few days. But there was a lot of good-natured ribbing amongst them as they shared pizza and pasta. Ren Ren Ritualo (DLSU), Miko Roldan (FEU) and Mike Bravo (UP), who used to be teammates way back in high school, kept all of us entertained with their funny comments. Prompted by Yasmine Hidalgo of Pinoycentral, the whole group began to address Miko as Mr. Action Star, in reference to his movie-star looks. By night's end, we had discovered that Mike was an expert on skin care. Alfie Grijaldo (NU) was the first to arrive, as usual. Mark Abadia (Adamson) was excitement personified. Paul Artadi (UE) was quiet yet confident.

UST could not send a representative since the pictorial and interview coincided with the Tigers' team-building seminar. Ateneo did not also send a representative since their coach insisted that if they were to be featured, it had to be the whole team and not just one player. It is interesting to note that the Blue Eagles is exerting effort in keeping to a minimum all their media-related activities such as granting interviews, etc. Could it be perhaps that they are changing their

image from being congenial to being tough and mysterious players? One can only surmise that this could be due to last year's media hype which resulted in a lackluster and disappointing finish in last year's season.

All in all, the dinner was a lot of fun. The players were all relaxed, laid-

CONVERSATION/P.C4

SKIN CHECK



Do you have these skin problems? Come to Dermatrium and experience the difference! We have painless removal of warts and wrinkles, A.H.A. and Esthetics TX for scars. Ozone Bio Fusion

for acne, Noselifting, Eyebags Removal, Liposuction, Breastlifting, Scar Revisions, Facelifting and many more extensive treatments all under one roof!



CALL OR VISIT US TODAY!
DERMATRIUM
SKIN & COSMETICS SURGERY CLINIC

MAKATI: G-11 Prince Plaza 1106 Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati City • Tel Nos.: 893-5449 • 893-5387 • 893-5403
QUEZON CITY: 1157-C MRE Bldg., Guzman Ave., Q.C. • Tel Nos.: 374-5174 to 374-5175
ALABANG: 10-G Industrial Enterprises Business Center, Alabang-Zapote Road, Alabang, MM • Tel Nos.: 807-4403 to 807-4404
LEGASPI CITY: Unit 2, Alcasar Bldg., Rural St., Legaspi City • Tel Nos.: (052) 480-6937 • (052) 820-8240

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS



Mariella & Marites Back-To-Back!

Love is in the air at the Robinsons Malls as Alpha Records unveils two of its latest singing finds.

July 8, Sunday, 4PM
Fountain Area
Robinsons Place Imus

July 15, Sunday, 4PM
Activity Area
Robinsons Place Novaliches

July 21, Saturday, 4PM
Fountain Area
Robinsons Galleria

August 4, Saturday, 4PM
Orosa Atrium
Robinsons Place Manila



"My modelling and networking projects stressed me out to the point that I was losing A LOT of hair. Excessive thinning and falling plus stunted hair growth made my hair appear limp with less volume. I was afraid I'd go bald! I felt very insecure because, as a model, I have to maintain my look and that includes having healthy hair. I tried topical creams but they only gave temporary and insignificant results. I didn't want to go on like this forever so I went to Svenson International for my hair-loss problem.

"The consultant recommended Svenson's specialized hair recovery treatments, including Tricho-DHT Inhibitor. As a result, falling hair has decreased, my hair is much thicker, and there is real hair regrowth with longer-lasting results! If I didn't go to Svenson, my problem would still go on and would become even worse. I'm relieved that Svenson recovered the lushness of my hair!"

Clarifying Clarizza King Model

"No More Thinning & Falling Hair For Me!"

Svenson
INTERNATIONAL

YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD



MAKATI
Solid Mills Bldg.,
dela Rosa St.
817-2260
817-2194

QUEZON CITY
Cedar Executive Bldg.,
Timog Avenue
372-6631
372-6632

BINONDO
Federal Tower Bldg.,
Dasmariñas St.
243-0128
244-8913

ALABANG
Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.,
Alabang-Zapote Rd.
842-1389
842-4181

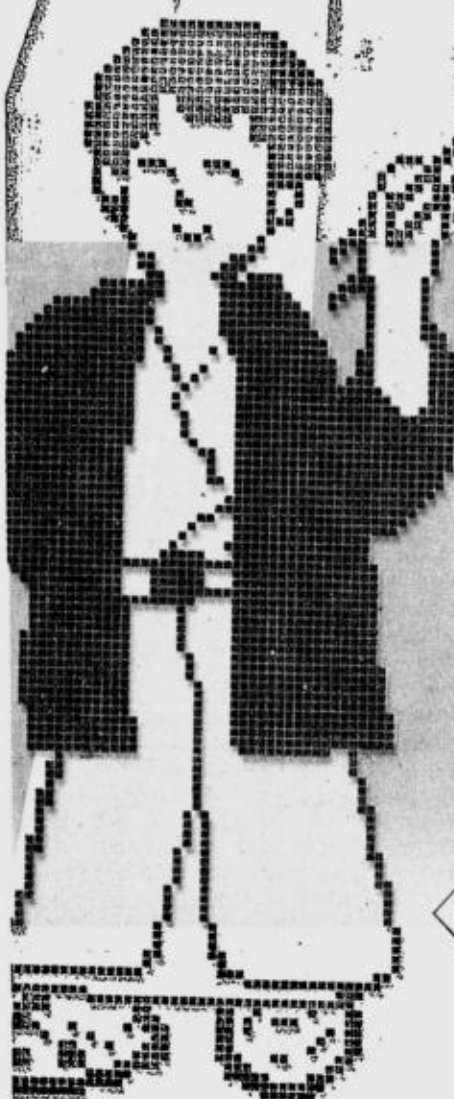
CEBU
Keppel Centre,
Cebu City
032-2340851
032-2340853

MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SATURDAY (8 AM - 3 PM)

VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Wanna learn to speak Japanese?

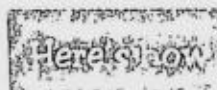
Name: Akiko
Personality: Soft-spoken, cultured & sweet.
Faves: Night out in the bar w/ friends, Teriyaki Burger.



Name: Kenji
Personality: Traditional yet modern and fun.
Faves: Karaoke Bars, ninjitsu, nightlife.

Greet them "moshi-moshi" or hello and they'll happily dish out more Japanese words... show you Mount Fuji among other Japanese Wonders... tell you about Ninjas... and make you listen to Japanese Songs as GlobeTones.

Globe Handyphone is all you need to meet new friends from Japan and other countries too.



To meet Kenji or Akiko, key in chosen pal (Ex: Akiko) and send to 2333.

To learn to speak their language, find out about their traditions, key in your friend's name then teachme (Ex: Akiko teachme) and send to 2333.

To see the famous icons, key in friend's name then showme* (Ex: Akiko showme) and send to 2345.

To hear their national song, key in your friend's name then letslisten* (Ex: Akiko letslisten) and send to 2345.

Infotext Rates:

P2.00 for Plan Subscribers
P2.50 for Prepaid Plus Subscribers

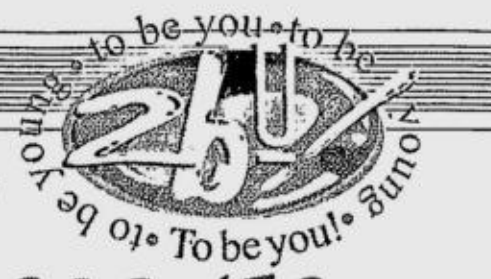
*For requests sent to 2345 (GlobeTones or GlobeIcons)
P20.00 for Plan Subscribers
P25.00 for Prepaid Plus Subscribers

Services Provided by:



For more details visit
www.globeinteractive.com.ph





64TH UAAP: An all-out war

BY LESMES SOLANOY AND JASMINE PAYO

ANOTHER war is about to break loose. On July 14, eight teams will start the battle for collegiate basketball supremacy as the 64th season of the UAAP unfolds. Amid the deafening cheers and the exciting drama, the color and the riveting action, these teams will be slugging it out not only for the much-coveted basketball crown, but also more importantly for school glory.

Adamson University

Placing dead last the past UAAP season, the Adamson Falcons had a disheartening year after failing to clinch a single victory.

The cornerstone of the Falcons' gradual rebuilding effort is new recruit Mark Abadia. A sensational high school player from Cebu and a former member of the RP team, the young off guard/forward has been thrust into the leadership role. Two other rookies are expected to help deliver some wins for Adamson. Burly Steve Rolan will be manning the painted area and Ramil Tagupa will be calling the shots for the Falcons.

UAAP chances: Definitely, it won't be a quick turn around for the Falcons. But with a bunch of young and talented recruits, it's not unlikely that Adamson may pull off a few surprises this year.

Fighting words: "There's nowhere but up for this team. That one point makes me very optimistic. No. 2, I think we have a new bunch of guys who have promise."—coach Luigi Trillo

Ateneo de Manila University

The Ateneo Blue Eagles had an impressive regular season, but ended up collapsing in the semis.

Although there seems to be less fanfare, Ateneo still has one of the formidable lineups this season. Save for Wesley Gonzales, everyone in the team will be back to wear the blue and white jersey. Expect Mythical Team member Enrico Villanueva and MVP Rich Alvarez to once again lead the pack. And with the recruit of highly touted LA Tenorio from San Beda high school, Ateneo has found someone to fill in the point guard position.

UAAP chances: Though the past two seasons may be disheartening for many fans, the Ateneo squad delivers an improved performance each year. Again, the Final Four is most likely in the bag.

Fighting words: "The guys are two-and-a-half years older. We've been through a lot of adversity. We know our character already and we know our weaknesses and strength. We'll really be competitive this year."—assistant coach Ricky Dandan

De La Salle University

They can't do it. This is what a lot has been saying about La Salle's chances of completing a grand slam. Not when Don Allado is no longer around. But the Green Archers will be one of the teams that will be sporting a new look.

Several stalwarts have left the team, and their shoes will be filled in by the rookies, most of whom are promising. A rookie-laden lineup is something the defending champions have not experienced in a long time.

Nevertheless, they still have the veterans to lead the way. Ren Ren Ritualo will be in his last season and is sure to go all out for the fourth straight crown. Helping him are point guard Mike Cortez and big man Adonis Santamaria. The three now become the deadly triumvirate for La Salle.

Although they can be contenders, injuries are plaguing the team. Willy Wilson, Mika Vainio, BJ Manalo and rookie Carlo Sharma are still nursing injuries.

UAAP chances: When it comes to La Salle, it is very hard to make a prediction. People said they couldn't do a back-to-back, but they did. And last year, many doubted they would even go to the Finals, and yet they managed to win the championship. Again, this year La Salle is not seeded, but it's possible they can make four in a row. Winning has become La Salle's tradition.

Fighting words: "We're still going to be competitive, we won't give up."—coach Franz Pumaren

Far Eastern University

As far as everyone was concerned, last season was going to be a UST-Ateneo Finals. No one really placed their bets on the FEU Tamaraws, until Miko Roldan made that amazing buzzer beater shot against Ateneo.

Right after the Finals, which La Salle took, the Tamaraws wasted no time and started to work. Forget about the loss and think about the future glory. No regrets and no tears were shed, all that they want is to make the return trip to the Finals.

Just recently, the Tamaraws copied the Fr. Martin title. Despite the departure of Celino Cruz and Edwin Bacani, FEU remains to be the major force to reckon with, due to the presence of Roldan, Rysal Castro and Leo Avenido, who had showed marked improvements, especially after their respective PBL stints.

UAAP chances: They are this year's top contender. No doubt about it. Everything is in place. The talent is there and so is the experience. And, yes, even the hunger. It is so visible in the eyes of the Tamaraws that their sights are set for the basketball crown alone. And that should be

enough for other teams to be on the lookout for this team.

Fighting words: "Only a foolish coach will promise championship. Ang mapa-promise namin is that we will go out there prepared and ready to give our best."—coach Coy Banal

National University

After posting a handful of upset games last season, the NU Bulldogs placed sixth overall.

Veterans Chico Manabat, Alfie Grijaldo and Ariel de Castro are expected to carry the team once more. And, of course, Jeff Napa is once again tasked to provide sweet-shooting services.

UAAP chances: The Bulldogs still have no big man who can battle it out with some of the league's taller guys. But NU can sometimes pull through so other squads may again feel the Bulldogs' bite.

Fighting words: "They're always putting us down, na NU lang yan. But just like the Bulldogs, kapag lalo mong inaaway, lalong talaban 'yan."—forward Alfie Grijaldo

University of the East

Many were on the lookout for UE last year for several reasons—rookie sensation James Yap, along with big man Omar Liban Ali, and its flashy point guards Adrian Ronquillo and Paul Artadi, and the ever dependable veteran Aldwyn Manubag. Add to that the presence of a new coach and the support of a taipan.

This season will be different. There will be no Manubag and no Ali to lead the charges for the team. Coach Boysie Zamar will now call the shots for the team. While they still are competitive in the back court, the team is definitely wanting in size. Expect a speed game, whenever the Warriors are playing. They have the materials for it and they eventually hope to make the Final Four cut with the run and gun style of play.

UAAP chances: It will really be a challenge for the Warriors to make it all the way to the Finals. But if their performance in the Fr. Martin Cup is to be a gauge, there is a possibility that they may pocket one of the Final Four slots. And then they can start from there. But whatever their performance, it will be an achievement for them.

Fighting words: "We'll always give our hearts' best and play as if it is our last game."—coach Boysie Zamar

University of the Philippines

Although placing at the near-bottom of last year's team standings, the UP Maroons had several close-game encounters with some of the top teams in the league.

The trio of Mark Jomalesa, Rodel Celso and Mike Bravo are again stepping up for the State U squad. Rob Bornan-

64TH/p.C3

REN REN RITUALO

'I play because I'm having fun'

IT was during a DLSU-UST game in Loyola Gym a couple of years ago when we first saw him play. Because of the heavy rains, Don Allado and Dino Aldeguer were not able to make it to the game. The Tigers seemed assured of walking away with an easy victory. Then from nowhere came No. 4 who sank one shot after another like it was the easiest, most natural thing to do. While the others grappled and struggled with the ball, he swept past all of them as he made his shots. That game has gone down in UAAP history as one of its most memorable games. And the player who led the Green Archers to victory? Ren Ren Ritualo.

A man among the boys, that's how a basketball enthusiast once described Florencio "Ren Ren" Ritualo Jr. It would not be an exaggeration to say that he is a certified superstar of the UAAP. His contemporaries, even his opponents, all agree Ren Ren is one player not to be taken lightly.

And yet this formidable hardcourt general is still very much a kid at heart. Most people take basketball seriously, but for Ren Ren, basketball is a game. A game he has grown to love over the years.

First point

His father, Florencio Ritualo Sr., is a former PBA player. It is no wonder then that at an early age Ren Ren was already dribbling and shooting hoops in his makeshift court at home. "My Mom said I year old ako when I made my first shot," he enthuses.

His father, obviously, was his first mentor. "There were no hard and fast rules that my dad taught me at the beginning. We just played pero parang competition. Hindi ako nagpapatalo sa kanya," he recalls with fondness. "Of course at that time, talo talaga nya ako. Now talo ko na s'ya," he adds with a laugh.

It is obvious Ren Ren treasures his childhood memories of his Dad. To this day, his Dad gives him pointers after each game. His Mom was his first fan. "Before I used to get embarrassed whenever she came to a game, but as I got older mas na-appreciate ko na nand'un s'ya," he says. Even though his Mom is now based in the United States, she still takes time to come home and see her son play, especially during the championship.

It was in the streets, "sa tabi-tabi ng kalye" as he puts it, where he first started to learn the basic rules of the game. He was a fifth grader in San Beda when he made his first varsity team. He remembers his first win with great clarity. "It was in fifth grade, during the intrams. I remember my Mom was watching. Medyo nahihya pa ako kasi humalabas pagkamama's boy ko," he narrates.

Does he ever feel like he is living out his father's dream? "Siguro, especially d'un sa mga 'di n'ya na-accomplish," he says. The dream of playing ball is a shared goal between father and son.

If there is a lesson his Dad has constantly reminded him of, it is the value of discipline. "Especially self-discipline," he stresses.

It is interesting to note that Ren Ren cannot find the right words to express his feelings for the game.

"I play because I'm having fun," says the prolific player who led his college team to three UAAP championship crowns.

He also recently steered his PBL team, Welcoat, to victory. "I can't explain. It's natural. It's not effortless for me although there's hard work involved," he says in Taglish.

You know how it is when you ask someone to describe how he feels for a loved one? The person struggles with the right words to use, but it is clearly written all over the person's face how he exactly feels. The same applies to Ren Ren except that he is talking about basketball.

The gift

He is taken aback when asked if it has occurred to him he has a gift, an extraordinary talent for the game. "It hasn't occurred to me. 'Di ko iniisip 'yan kasi baka lunaki ulo ko eh. Sabi nga nila malaki na nga tingnan ulo ko," he jokes around.

Is he just playing at humility? "No, I'm not... You know Michael Jordan said that if you become content with your game, you won't improve. I'm not content with my game. There's a lot of room for improvement," he says candidly.

Despite having played for several seasons, Ren Ren says he still gets excited at every game. He says he gets more excited than nervous during a game. "Parang I get into a zone. I don't want to talk. I don't hear anything. I just forget," he says.

Crunch time

The 22-year-old small forward and this year's Captain Ball of the DLSU Green Archers is in an unenviable position. All the accolades and victories come with responsibility, the pressure to maintain his stature. It is his last year in the UAAP and he is expected to lead his team to a fourth straight victory. Apart from all of that, he is under a greater amount of pressure since he is expected not only to not miss the shot, but come up with big numbers.

"Everybody's under pressure. Kahit rookie ka, malaki ang pressure sa 'yo. But I have learned over the years to handle pressure. I don't look for the game. I just let the game come to me. 'Di na gaya ng dati na sobrang gigil," he explains. He admits it took years before he learned to have patience. "I tried too hard before."

DLSU has a relatively young team this year. Ren Ren acknowledges there is immense pressure on him. "I need all the support of my teammates, but rest assured I'll play my best in every game. We are making history here," he says.

It is public knowledge Ren Ren is going pro next year. Does this mean there is a chance he will play soft and safe this year in preparation for next year? "No! The more you play 'soft,' the more chances of getting injured. I play every game as if it were my last," he says. "You're only as good as your last game, so you might as well give it your best, right?"

And at the rate Ren Ren is going, this season is just the beginning of a long and fruitful basketball career.

Jules Alcantara



PanOxyl. The proven pimple treatment on the face of the planet.



PanOxyl is a product of Stiefel. A multinational company with over 150 years of experience and dedication to research in dermatology. For product inquiries, call our ACTION-AID HOTLINE at 1-800-10-STIEFEL (provincial), and 635-7346 (Metro Manila), Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-11:30 a.m. You can also e-mail us at barcilla@stiefel.com or sjavier@stiefel.com. Available at all **Mercury** drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide.

© 2001 Stiefel Philippines, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Blue versus Green

GAME preview: Who's going to win in the Ateneo-La Salle opening game this Sunday?

Lesmes Solano: It's nice to say La Salle, but Ateneo is favored with their formidable lineup. But then again, one doesn't win with brawn alone. It takes heart to triumph. And it has been shown that the Green Archers have both brawn, though not as good as Ateneo, and heart, which is lacking in the Blue Eagles. So just like last year, I guess first round goes to DLSU.

Jasmine Payo: Of course, I'm betting on Ateneo. The Eagles had two consecutive disheartening seasons and that alone is motivation enough. They're out to prove they have indeed learned their lessons, so I think whoever Ateneo is meeting up in the opening game would be dealing with a very hungry team. It just turned out to be La Salle.

Season preview: Which team has the edge this season?

J: Although La Salle has the championship experience, I think Ateneo has an edge over character. The Eagles have gone through two roller-coaster seasons and I think they've already learned a lot on how they function as a team. They undoubtedly have the skills the past years, but the intangibles weren't exactly there yet. All the hype must have been distracting. This season, though, I see a much humbled team. They're more motivated and focused on their team goals.

L: There are three main factors to consider: Lineup, experience and heart. Obviously, La Salle has the edge in the experience and heart area, offsetting any deficiency in the lineup. Ateneo is definitely heftier, but the winning tradition is on La Salle's side. If Ateneo still fails to develop the fighter's heart, then they might end up watching its rival bringing home the honors once again.

If there is one player who you would want to play for your team, who would that be and why?

L: That would be a coach's prerogative, but as a fan I would not want anyone from Ateneo donning the jersey of La Salle. It just won't fit, if you know what I mean. Green and white wouldn't look good on Alvarez or Membrere or anyone else. Besides, the team performs

well in its current roster of players.

J: Well, honestly, it has to be Renren Ritualo. I think any team in the league would want to have him in their lineup. A shoo-in for the PBA, so who wouldn't want him? But really, the guy is a great shooter. And even if he has been missing shots, he still won't be afraid to take the crucial ones. I also admire his leadership and the way he inspires other players.

Would you trade places?

L: Definitely not! La Salle through and through. What is a hyped-up lineup compared to seven straight finals appearance and a grand slam? Need I say more?

J: The three championships are tempting, but no, never! (Laughs) Win or lose, it's the school we choose!

Name some good things about your rival team.

J: Well, La Salle has some cute players in their squad. But, of course, Ateneo still has better-looking players. (Laughs) But seriously, La Salle is one consistent team. You just have to admire them for that. They also have that confidence down the stretch. Whether their opponent is cutting the lead or they're the ones playing catch up, you'll see their composure. So not surprisingly, they almost always pull through.

L: Admittedly, Ateneo is seeded higher this season. After everything they had gone through, I guess it is only proper to confer to them the favored status. And it would be good for them especially when playing against La Salle, who relies on experience.

Do you think it would be an ADMU-DLSU Finals match?

J: Last year could have been the Ateneo-La Salle showdown. But this season, I think either one of them will end up facing FEU.

L: That's hard to tell. First, they must be able to make it to the Final Four. Then from there, Ateneo and La Salle must make sure that they crush their opponents to guarantee a blockbuster Finals. Too bad, Ateneo bungled its chance for a return trip to the Finals last year when La Salle was just waiting all the time. Unfortunately, better and stronger teams have emerged like FEU, thus lessening the chance of an Ateneo-La Salle finals.

Virtual fans

BY JASMINE W. PAYO

ROOTING for your favorite UAAP team and dissing your rival opponents have taken the virtual route. Any UAAP enthusiast who has access to the Internet has probably checked out these online forums at least once. They have become popular, mainly for the entertainment they provide. And just like any live basketball game, there are the cheering and heckling from supporters, emotions flare up and arguments soon ensue. But aside from these voluble, obsessive fans, you can get info from long-time league observers who regularly dish out their latest game analyses and team assessment. But you'd also find amusement from girls and guys who gush at the league's heartthrobs, and those who just get a kick out of posting nasty comments.

Currently, the UAAP Forum of Pinoyexchange remains to be the most popular. Pinoycentral is also gaining a following while several university websites like Ateneo's Atenista.net, La Salle's Greenarcher.net and UP's Peyups.com also carry this online feature.

And now that the UAAP season draws near, these online forums are once again starting to kick off. 2bU! asked four active UAAP Netizens to share their passion for these online forums.

What do you like most about the UAAP forums?

Erman: You learn about the latest scoops even before the season starts. You get to know the rookies who will don your school color, and know who's eligible to play or not.

Eagle: The inside information and the general interest. Plus there are people with whom you can talk UAAP to 24/7.

Nuss: There's the type of info that you don't get in newspapers, but the gossip type you receive when you mingle with journalists and people close to varsity players.

What type of messages do you post?

Eagle: Analysis, pro-Ateneo posts, gushing at players and defending my favorite players!

11#UST_guard'98: Informative messages.

Erman: Mostly *kwentos*, like the games I've seen.

Nuss: My posts are usually analysis of teams. But once in a while, if somebody asks who this athlete is, I help out especially if I know who the athlete is.

Do you engage in flame wars (posting a mean-spirited comment and/or responding with another nasty remark)?

Nuss: As much as possible, I don't flame. But then some comments tend to stray so I correct their posts.

Erman: I do flame sometimes, especially when a point raised is not right.

Eagle: Most of the time I don't because it's their opinion that they post there. But sometimes, I really lose my temper.

11#UST_guard'98: Yes, I was called *sinungaling*. I'm also bothered *doon sa mga* "Who's got the prettiest girlfriend among UAAP players?" type of posts.

Any improvements you'd like to see?

Nuss: The moderator should be responsible for whatever is disseminated in the forum. Other than that, I don't know why they regard it as cool to diss La Salle. Some of them are already below the belt and some of the arguments stray from the topic.

Do you still visit or post in the UAAP forums during off-season?

Eagle: Yup! Because I miss the UAAP talk.

Overall, what keeps you hooked?

Nuss: What drives me to participate is that I get to know more about the UAAP and at the same time contribute to the discussion with what I know.

Erman: But mainly, it's because UAAP is all heart, all pride, all passion.

64TH UAAP

(From page C2)

cin, last year's Brazilian rookie, has also reportedly showed marked improvement in his dribbling and rebounding skills.

UAAP chances: UP coach Ryan Gregorio noted last season that he's in the process of rebuilding the team. If their improved performance in several pre-UAAP season tournaments is any indication, they seem to be on the right track. So expect UP to climb up the team standing ladder this year.

Fighting words: "Coach said last year that we're rebuilding the team. Right now, we believe we're a stronger team and we're a contender this year."—off guard/small forward Mike Bravo

University of Santo Tomas

UST was all over the sports pages last year. Basketball aficionados were dead sure the Tigers would be top contender for the UAAP title.

Like La Salle, UST will be a surprisingly different team this year. Gilbert Lao, Melchor Latoreno, Cyrus Baguio and Marvin Ortiguerra will no longer be suiting up for the Tigers. Thus, the task of bringing the team to the Final Four rests on the shoulders of Ralph Emerson Oreta and the high-flying Niño Gelig. Although they may not be this year's favorite, Coach Aric del Rosario thinks it can work to their advantage. In the past, it was when people least expected it that the Tigers pulled off a surprise. Thus, without the pressure this year, the Tigers may get back in the Finals.

UAAP chances: Bumpy and shaky. This seems to be the road that UST will take. The loss of its players is really a major blow to the Tigers. Given the strength of the other teams, it may be difficult for UST to realize its goal of booking a return engagement in the Finals. However, Coach Aric is no ordinary coach. He has always been known to deliver when his back is against the wall.

Fighting words: "Wala masyadong pressure ngayon, e mas gusto ko 'yon kasi 'pag walang pressure dun kami nanalo."—coach Aric del Rosario

To do or not to do, that is the question

DEAR Caloy and Sep,

I met this guy on the Net and we did cyber, you know, the safest sex, on the Net. Now he wants to meet me... and do it. At first it was okay. I wanted to do it, too, no strings attached. Just do it *kumbaga*. 'Yun nga lang, I'm afraid. What if I get pregnant, or my future husband won't like "used," or if he (cyber lover) will babble? I'm doing this 'cause I'm bored. I got a flat life. I want a change. Do you think it's okay? I don't sleep around, you see. What am I going to do now? Hope you can advise me. Thanks.

ANGEL

This is by far the dumbest letter we have received since Chat-room started. Verbosity cannot hide the fact that Angel is either a sad human being probably craving for attention, or one of my ex's friends having a good laugh right now.

If you want to have sex, Angel, then have sex. Of course, there's a probability that you'll get pregnant. There's an equal chance that you'll get STD (sexually transmitted disease). But if you have nothing to live for in your flat life (dreams, ambitions, goals) then, by all means, go ahead. I refuse to take any sort of responsibility because I know you know what's right and what's wrong according to your own principles.

There is nothing wrong with exploring your sexuality. It's just the manner in which you go about it that really irks me.

Why don't you try to find a living, breathing human? Start with that. We'll work on character selection later. So you think this guy is better in the real world than online? I bet the reason he does it online is because he's too stupid to go out



Carlos Garchitorena & September Mahino

on a date and get laid the conventional way.

Survey says: 80 percent find nothing wrong with a hobby like surfing the Net; 31 percent actually uses the Net for different purposes like shopping for gifts, visiting porn sites and downloading music (normal people do that); 86 percent agree with me that you'd be better off buying a dildo instead of a mouse.

CALOY

Yes, you are most definitely bored. So bored that even a no-brainer situation compels you to seek other people's opinions. (I have a sick feeling you're just doing this for laughs.)

If you really want to have sex, then no one can stop you. You obviously know what can happen, so we don't have to remind you about that. I just don't get why you would want to do it with some perv you met on the Net.

I'm not promoting promiscuity or careless behavior. In fact, I'd rather have you stick to the safer option. But your mind seems to be made up already and all you are asking from us is a little nudge. I'm not gonna give you that.

SEP

At the Children's Wear Department

S' COOL

Weather Breakers

Your choice of nifty designs

from only

199.75

DEPARTMENT STORE

We've got it all for you!

QUIAPO • NAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU

Conversation with top UAAP players

(From page C1)

back, neat, not at all sweaty and grimy. The only time that they got a bit nervous was when they had their pictures taken. But, c'mon guys, you can quit basketball and become the next runway superstars, right?

What are your expectations for your team this season?

Paul Artadi: Well, target *namin* final four. Last year, we were one game away from making it to the final four, so hopefully this year we will be able to do it.

Alfie Grijaldo: To make it to the final four.

Mark Abadia: For us winning *lang*. (Adamson failed to win a single game in last year's UAAP season.)

Miko Roldan: *Pero* he (Mark Abadia) wasn't with the team yet last year.

So hopefully this year Adamson will do better. What about FEU?

MR: We expect this year to make it to the final four or the finals. *Pero* this year, we are really hoping to become champion. Last year was really *sayang*. (FEU squared off against DLSU for the championship after defeating twice to beat ADMU in the semis.) *Si Ren Ren kasi eh!* (Laughs)

Mike Bravo: Final four and championship.

Compared to the other years, your team did well last year.

MB: Hmm... yeah. We had a couple of games where we would lose by a few points only so we had a lot of close games. We would lose by 3 or 4 points. It was really in the end game but our team this year has gained maturity. Plus we only lost one player.

What about DLSU? Are we going four-ward?

Ren Ren Ritualo: As for my team and myself, I expect that we play our best in every game. Four-ward? *S'yempre!* (Grins)

Personal expectations.

PA: As a team leader, I hope I can bring my team to the finals.

AG: As a senior in the team, I'll make sure *na mai-relay ko sa team kung ano'ng sinasabi ng coach namin*.

What about you, Mark? You're a rookie who was one of the South's unbeatable players, and now you are expected to carry a team that hasn't won anything (Mark is one of Cebu's top players).

MA: *S'yempre mahirap din. Pero nakapag-adjust na ako sa bago kong team.* I just talked to my teammates *na tulungan nila ako kasi rookie lang ako.* But I have gelled with the team.

What about you, Miko? More crucial end game shots? (One of last year's memorable moments is Roldan's crucial basket in the semis game of FEU against ADMU)

MR: It's my last year in the UAAP so I hope to enjoy my last year. Of course, there's added pressure since I am also the captain ball, we really want to win *na* this year, and of course, it's my last year.

MB: Personal intention? (Everyone laughs.) Easy *lang kayo!*

MR: Mike, *kain ka muna!*

RR: *Galing ka sa Mass, no?*

MB: Seriously, *sana mag-change naman 'yung teams na napapasok sa final four.*

RR: *Wag naman ganun!*

MB: Hindi, what I mean is, *sana makapasok naman kami. Sana makasama namin ang La Salle, FEU. Sana madagdag naman kami dun!*

All: Wooh!

RR: *Siguro* on my part, *'yung leadership sa team, since I'm the captain ball now. Kasi tingin ko sa team ko, bata lahat.* And of course, maturity *sa practice and sa game, both on and off the court. Pero may problem tayong sa off the court.* (Laughs out loud!) *Pero seriously, I have to be a role model kasi a lot of our veterans have already left the team.*

How do you manage to balance studies and basketball, especially now that the season is about to start? Do you guys even go to class?

PA: *Kami sa UE* we really have to go to class. If we

miss games, we need to give an excuse letter. *'Pag madami kang bagsak, that's the only time that the school intervenes pero di pa naman nangyayari sa akin 'yun.*

AG: *Mahirap kasi ang tagal ng practice namin and minsan di na kami nakakapasok. Kaya minsan 'pag may problema* we talk to our teachers *na matulungan din kami sa schedule.*

Do you really get to learn in school or is your focus really on basketball?

MA: Honestly, basketball *ang focus talaga.*

MR: Well, for us, when we enroll, we make sure that we get the schedule that will not conflict with practice. *Kaya I think it's easier for us. 'Pag di kami kunyari nakakapasok, they make sure that we still learn kasi they give us special classes or tutorials.*

Mike, you're from UP which is known for high academic standards. How do you cope?

MB: We make sure and they make sure that there is time for academics. We adjust the schedule of subjects that we get with our time for practice.

RR: *Mahirap talaga i-balance kasi kulang 'yung 24 hours eh. Siguro time management lang talaga. Nakaka-survive naman.* Actually I'm doing my thesis already.

If there's one UAAP player (not a teammate) whom you admire, who would it be and why?

PA: *Siguro si Cyrus Baguio pero he's not playing this year. Sayang, kasi he can dunk and the crowd loves that.*

AG: *Si Rich Alvarez. Mabait siya sa laro and even off the court. Okay siya.*

MA: *Si Joe Lipa! (Laughs!) Hindi, si Miko, si Mike and si Ren Ren. Well, I'm supposed to watch out for Gelig and 'yung No. 3 ng Ateneo. (Wesley Gonzales, who is no longer playing for the Blue Eagles due to disciplinary problems.)*

MR: *Ako, si Ren Ren Ritualo!*

RR: *Pwede ba 'yung kapa-reho mo naman sa position!*

MR: Hindi, seriously *si Ren 'coz of his leadership. Sana meron din kami nun sa team namin.*

MB: For me, *'yung mga katabi ko (Ren and Miko). Naku, baka sabihin nila sobrang biased ko na!* (Laughs)

RR: *Si Mike Cortez. Ah, okay, not teammate... well, lahat ug Bedista sa UAAP.*

Wesley Gonzales, one of ADMU's top gunners, is not playing anymore due to disciplinary problems. How do you feel about this?

PA: Well, I guess *tama lang 'yun.* We also have someone in our team *na natanggal din kahit na defensive player namin 'yun 'coz of disciplinary problems.*

AG: I guess okay *lang whether nandun siya or wala. Ganun pa rin.*

Will it affect your team strategy that he is no longer with the team?

AG: *Ganun pa rin. Pero s'yempre sayang, kasi mas may challenge dahil malakas siya, matangkad siya.*

MR: Okay *lang.* You know in our team, the same thing happened. One of our players is no longer with us *dahil din sa disciplinary problems.*

MB: *S'yempre I'm happy kasi wala nang magbabantay. Seriously, I feel sorry for him kasi namimiss-interpreting 'yung the way he acts pero disciplinarian eh, gamun talaga. Dapat naman din talaga na meron kang discipline sa sarili mo.* That's it—*di ko rin alam masyado what happened, eh.*

RR: I feel bad for Ateneo *kasi he's a big loss to their team.*

He's a big factor in the team. Sayang, kasi aninin natin, he's a big guy na kayang magdala ng bola, defender pa. He's like the best defensive player sa wings nila.

Let's face it, girls get easily attracted to basketball players. Is it easier for you to court or pick up a girl?

PA: Yeah. *S'yempre, like sa school namin, as varsity players, madami ang bumabati sa amin. Pero sabi nila snob daw kami or sometimes they text and they say, "Ang snob mo naman, ang taray mo naman." Hindi ko na lang pinapansin.*

AG: *Oo naman.*

MA: *Sa akin mahirap, kasi hinahanap nila gwaping di ba? They say wala naman akong kwenta kasi player lang ako, di naman ako gwaping. (Grins)*

ALL: Wooh! *Pa-humble!*

MR: For me, hindi, because I'm really super mahiyain.

In one of the online forums, there were people who posted and said that you're a silent heartthrob. How do you feel about that?

MR: Hun? *Di ko alam 'yun.* I guess I'm flattered *pero wala lang. (Blushes)*

MB: No it's not easy for me at all. Well, I guess it's easy if the girl is flirting with you. But if it's serious, *mahirap.*

Okay, for example, there are two other guys who are courting a girl aside from you. Would you say you have an edge?

MB: *O, siges na nga, sabihin na natin na may advantage talaga siguro. Siguro malakas din ang dating kasi matangkad—matangkad lang ha? I didn't say gwapo!*

RR: Hindi, kasi shy type *ako eh!* (Everyone laughs!)

For those who have a girlfriend, is it harder that you have one?

MA: *Mc gastos! (Laughs)*

PA: It's hard *kasi kulang sa time.* You practice and you're tired *pero you have to call her.*

MR: Yeah, it's harder *kasi 'yung time that is supposed to be spent para sa ibang bagay, nahahati pa because of the girlfriend.*

RR: *Siguro, but I can't say it's harder kasi she*



MIKE Bravo (UP Maroons)

serves as your inspiration. It's not gonna be hard if you're inspired, *di ba? Siguro* it's just a matter of time management.

How do you handle distractions or temptations, meaning girls, gimmick, etc.?

MB: As for me, I really discipline myself. You really have to sacrifice.

AG: *Sacrifice talaga kasi baka mahuli ka nung isa. (Laughs)*

MA: *Ako tulog na lang.*

If there is one issue in the UAAP that you feel affects you, what is it and why?

MR: *Siguro* the bad calls or bad refereeing. Sometimes, the calls favor a certain group too much.

What about the aggressive recruitment of Fil-foreigner players?

AG: For me, it makes the game more challenging.

MA: Okay *lang kasi* some teams do that *para talong lumaki 'yung chances nila.*

MR: For me, okay *lang* as long as they're really Filipinos.

MB: I personally think that it is an advantage *kasi* these players need a two-year residency before they can play in the UAAP. We are protected in that sense.

RR: The level of competition goes higher. The players are more challenged to practice harder to be able to match up with the more aggressive or more skillful players.

But do you feel that homegrown talents are getting less chances?

MR: I guess *navavalan rin pero di naman porker* Fil-foreigner *eh mas magaling or mas may edge.*

MB: May advantage *nga lang sila.*

RR: Yup, I agree, *pero madami din namang local players na just as good if not better than them.*

How many are Fil-foreigners among the top 10 players in the UAAP?

RR: Well, there's Mike Cortez.

MB: Also Ralph Bornancin who's half-Brazilian.

When asked what their future plans are, they all said the same thing—play in the professional league. Expected, right? They are the future of Philippine basketball.

VENUE: NATIONAL SPORTS GRILL, 3/F GREENBELT, MAKATI CITY



MIKO Roldan (FEU Tamaraws)



REN REN Ritualo (DLSU Green Archers)

FIGHT IT OUT!

Test your wits against an assigned challenger at War pop quiz. Survive the battlefield via Tanks as you crush the enemy tank with each precise shot. Beat your opponent to the middle of the map at Mines. For games to play anywhere, Globe is all you need!

Here's how to play:



WAR: To start, send WAR TO 2326

To answer, key in WAR ANSWER (Ex: WAR A) send to 2326



TANKS: To start, connect to Globe WAP Homepage, select Games or New sites then Wireless games, click on TANKS



MINES: To start, connect to Globe WAP Homepage, select Games or New sites then Wireless games, click on MINES

GAMESTATION PLAY RATES:

INFOTEXT GAMES

P2.00 for Plan Subscribers

P2.50 for Prepaid Plus Subscribers

WAP GAMES

First minute of playing is free!

P2.00 per minute for Business, CEO, Executive

P3.00 for Advantage, Personal and Prepaid

Check out our other games:

SMS Games



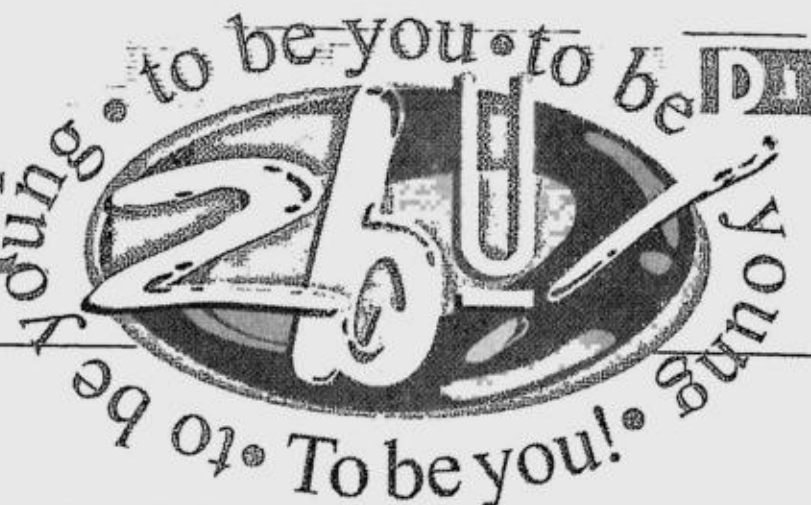
WAP Games:



Games are provided by:



LIFESTYLE



The stars behind the sidelines

BY CHRISSY D. ICAMINA AND
SALEEMA DEVI REFRAN
2BU! Correspondents

THEY say that when a team wins, credit is showered on the players; but when a team loses, most people heap the blame on the coach, the unsung MVP behind the spotlight.

Without coach Luigi Trillo, for



COY Banal

instance, the Adamson Falcons would be unable to fly. Without Ryan Gregorio, the UP Maroons would not be able to put up a fight. And without Coy Banal, the FEU Tamaraws would be rendered paralyzed.

Away from the sound of the leather bouncing on hardwood, let's take a peek at the area between the bleachers and the basketball court as three young UAAP basketball coaches reveal things about the game—and themselves.

LUIGI TRILLO

What is your philosophy in life?
I know it's overused, but something that can't kill you will only make you stronger. I think another thing is that, wherever you go, you will have problems; it's how you deal with it. I think with that you could always be an optimist. If you have that approach in life, you'll always find it in you to be happy.

What is your current love life status?

Well, I have a girlfriend and I've been with her for a very long time—six-and-a-half years.

Are you planning to get married?

At this stage, obviously, you have plans. At my age, I'm 25 going on 26. If you [have been going steady] that long with a girl, it's either you're planning your next step or not. But right now, she's also busy with her work and I with mine. It's not our main priority although we make time for each other.

If the military operation against the Abu Sayyaf were a big basketball game and you are the coach of the Armed Forces, what would your strategy be?

I'd really egg on my boys, man! There are different ways of handling it. I would really find a way to motivate them and just go out and flat play them, no holds barred. I mean, these guys are bullies. I think these guys are arrogant



LUIGI Trillo PHOTOS BY CATHY YOUNG

and aren't really that good. Manpower wise, I think we have them. I just have to find my way as a coach to have a strategy, motivate and bust their butts.

If you didn't go into basketball, where would you be right now?

Probably I'd be a businessman because I think that would really entice me to make something out of myself.

What business would that be?

I would look at something that I appreciate, something that would really catch my attention. Probably hotels, the wine business or something connected with sports. You can say I overachieve sometimes. If there's one thing my dad said about me, it is that I'm a go-getter. They said I couldn't do this. I couldn't do that and I did. I want to prove people wrong. Modesty aside, I think I'm the youngest PBA assistant coach and the youngest head coach. People said I wouldn't be able to do it. I think you just have to work hard and if you persevere, like they say the river will always beat the rock. I feel that's true. If you really want something, you should go get it.

RYAN GREGORIO

What is your guilty pleasure?
When I was younger I enjoyed going out at night, drinking with friends. The guilt feelings come in when I'm spending more time with my friends than with my girlfriend.

What is your philosophy in life?

My philosophy in life is you just have to do the right things every time. Just be happy. Don't step on another person's foot and work hard. If you're going to be a success, do it through your own merits and not by using other people.

How is your relationship with your players outside the court?

Since the age gap is not really big, whenever I'm outside the court I treat them like my friends. But there is always this certain respect that I want them to deal with. If we're inside the court, there should be a player-coach relationship. Outside the court, we can be friends for as long as they don't cross the line.

If the military operation against the Abu Sayyaf were a big basketball game and you are the coach of the Armed Forces, what would your strategy be?

I believe in preparing before a war. Usually, I analyze my opponents. I look at their strengths and weaknesses. The important thing about basketball and the game of war is you should always be ready before you jump into the action. Basically, I have to scout my opponent well *para* I'll know where I can pounce them.

If you didn't go into basketball, where would you be right now?

I would love to be a basketball commentator on TV. I do it on the side but now my schedule is very hectic. Two of my favorites are: coaching and talking about basketball on TV.

How do you see yourself 10 years from now?

Maybe I'll still be coaching. But I hope I'll have more time for my other passion which is being a basketball analyst. I'll still be living a happy life with my family.

COY BANAL

What's your idea of a perfect date?

Once in a while, my wife and I go fine dining. *Pero simple lang kami.* 'Yung when we go to see a movie, *masaya na kami.*

If the military operation against the Abu Sayyaf were a big basketball game and you are the coach of the Armed Forces, what would your strategy be?

Ang motivation ko [sa kanila] is No. 1, love—'yung pagmamahal nila sa trabaho, 'yung serbisyo at pagmamahal sa bansa. So doon siguro mabe-base 'yung motivation ko. Plus the fact na gusto nilang umunwi nang buo kasi may mga uunwan silang pamilya. Don't get yourself killed.

If you didn't go into basketball, where would you be right now?

Sa sales o business kasi, 'yung con-



RYAN Gregorio

fidence na binigay ng basketball magagamit ko doon sa trabahong 'yun. And I love meeting people and talking to them. For me, that's the challenge of closing a sale.

How do you see yourself 10 years from now?

I believe [basketball] ang calling ko. So hindi malayong nangyari na after 10 years I'd still be in basketball because I love the game so much and I love teaching people. I love interacting and talking to [my players] about anything, not only about basketball.

How is your relationship with your players outside the court?

When I became the head coach of FEU, that's the day when God showed me to build a relationship with the players. Outside the basketball court, okay kami. When they have problems, they go to me and ask for advice. 'Pag wala silang ginagawa, they visit me doon sa bahay, and 'yung relationship din nila sa mga anak ko is parang pamilya, parang kaibigan.

Who is Coy Banal outside the basketball court?

I'm a Christian. In fact, churchmate ko nga si [Ateneo Blue Eagle] Paul Tanchi. I attend Bible studies [on] Friday nights or when I have free time. I also love reading books, especially about basketball.

What is your philosophy in life?
There are no shortcuts to success. If you want to be successful, you have to exert a lot of effort.

What advice can you give to student-athletes?

Kailangan maintindihan nila 'yung responsibility nila as a student-athlete, and not as an athlete-student. Kailangan makita nila ang priorities nila. You are a student first, then an athlete. Dapat paghuthin mo ang pag-aaral mo kung 'di, babagsak ka, hindi ka makakapaglaro, so it goes together.

Oh No,
Bills Again!



Pay your bills Check-Free
and get a chance to
win back what you paid
up to

P100,000!

Check-Free™
IP A V E N U E S

Bills
of Fortune

There are more than 100 different bills
you can pay thru Check-Free*

The more bills you pay,
the more cash you win back!

Oh Yes,
Bills Again!



There will be 5 lucky Check-Free Payments winners in the Grand Draw on August 24, 2001.

- The promo is open to all existing BPI, BPI Family Bank and BPI Direct ATM cardholders with at least one valid Check-Free Payments reference number (excluding BPI, BPI Family Bank and/or BPI Direct accounts as reference numbers) from June 18 to August 17, 2001. If you still don't have an Express Teller account, open one now and make sure to enroll in Check-Free Payments.
- A computer-generated raffle number will be assigned for each Express Teller card number enrolled in Check-Free Payments which will be drawn at the end of the promo period. To qualify, you must have a minimum total payment amount of P500.00 within the promo period.
- Just pay your bills from any of the more than 100 merchants through the Express Teller ATM, Express Phone or BPI Express Online.
- To determine the cash prize, all payments made within the promo period shall be computed (excluding inter-account payments).
- There will be five (5) winners. Each winner shall receive a minimum cash prize of P20,000.00 and a maximum of P100,000.00.
In cases where the cardholder whose computed total payments are below P20,000, he/she will receive P20,000. And if he/she paid more than P100,000, he/she will receive P100,000. Bonus cash prizes will be computed separately.
- **Bonus Cash Prizes: An additional P10,000.00 will be given to the winner if he/she meets any of the following conditions during the promo period:
 - Enrolled in Express Bills and/or paid at least once through BPI Express Online
 - Enrolled a new or additional reference number and paid this reference number during the promo period
 - Has at least five reference numbers enrolled (excluding BPI, BPI Family Bank and/or BPI Direct accounts)

PAY CHECK-FREE THROUGH

Express Teller
ATM



Express Phone
89-100



Express Online
www.bpiexpressonline.com



Plus a bonus
cash prize
of P10,000 for new
Check-Free enrollees**
Enroll now!
CALL 89-100.



BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

* For a complete list of merchants, please call 89-100. Dial 0 to speak to a phonebanker.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1856 Series of 2001

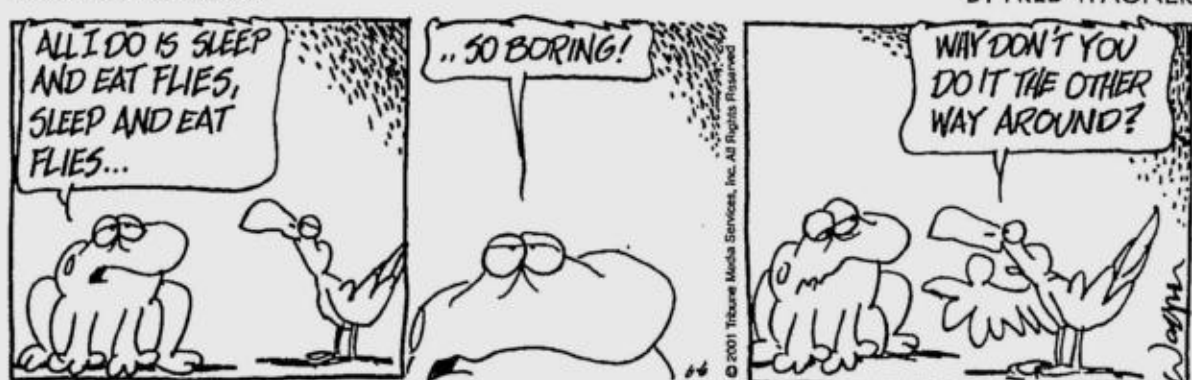
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS



ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER



SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY



BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT



HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Richie Sambora, Sela Ward, Yul Brynner, Tab Hunter, Suzanne Vega
Happy Birthday: Normal everyday routine will not be for you this year. You will want to delve into new territory offering a host of opportunities. It's time to spread your wings and fly. You've gathered up so much knowledge in the past that it's time to put it to good use. Get ready to enjoy the path you choose and let all your desires and intentions unfold. Your numbers: 3, 14, 17, 22, 28, 33

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Visiting individuals who don't get out much will be rewarding. Clear up problems with your peers. It's best to speak your mind and get to the bottom of problems that are disrupting your emotional well-being.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Your boss isn't likely to see things your way. Lie low and wait for a better time to make your move. You can accomplish a lot if you do your best.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Re-evaluate your motives for spending time with some of the individuals you hang out with. It's time to be completely honest with yourself and them.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Your need to know everything will lead you to lectures or the library. Don't leave any stone unturned, or you'll be hit with a humiliating surprise. Preparation is the key.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Take care of minor physical problems. You should be careful not to leave your money lying around. Someone you least expect may walk off with something that belongs to you.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You're in the mood to spend time with that special person in your life. Make plans early.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You will have to be careful not to upset females at work. If you don't play by the rules, opposition will cause delays in your plans. Try to get along with others.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Hook with a handle
- Insect with a stinger
- Burning crime
- Lion's call
- Out of the wind
- Second attempt
- Depression migrant
- Musical or Getz
- Flat surface
- Masseur?
- Yeah, sure
- Afrikaners
- Eve's second
- Like a more delicate fabric
- Student monitor
- Sore spots
- Remove bridges
- Greek letters
- Expect loyalty
- Spanish uncle
- Japanese seaport
- TV oldie, "Ramsey"
- Gilder piece
- Private instructor
- Inuits
- "M*A*S*H" co-star
- Sorrows
- For rent, in London
- Alum
- Mistreater of female elephants?
- Inflexible
- Installed, as carpet
- Surrounding glow
- Make amends
- Fender blamish
- Happy starter?
- Deadly poisons
- Dundee dagger
- Sunrise place

By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

PRIG	FLARE	ALIT
SOLE	REMIT	DARE
STIR	IAMBS	RYAN
TEEM	GSA	ROUND
FRIENDSHIP		
SOARED	RIOT	
ATSEA	AGAR	TNT
LIKEMONEY	EASIER	
ESS	PITS	TENSE
MADETHANK	KEPT	
IDEAS	URN	ERIK
SINS	RADII	NEON
TEST	ANGLE	CANE
SUES	GAELS	ELSE

©2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

- DOWN
- "Rhoda" co-star
 - David
 - Isao of the Senior PGA
 - Mediocre
 - Handouts
 - Leak stopper
 - Temple table
 - Penn and Young
 - Oreille Lake
 - French avant-garde artist
 - Alleviation
 - Dependable spouse?
 - Caen's river
 - Negative in Novgorod
 - Serves a sentence
 - Indira's dress
 - Fathered
 - Shaping machine
 - Plots of land
 - Throw out the family car?
 - H.S. dance
 - "My Fair Lady" director
 - Ivan and Nicholas
 - Colorado tribe
 - Actress Long
 - Traveler's tale
 - Anjou's cousin
 - Thyroid treatment
 - Oozy sediment
 - Singer Shania
 - State one's case
 - Snatch
 - Moreno or Rudner
 - Early auto maker
 - Waikiki dance
 - Time periods
 - Enthralled
 - Plaines, IL

A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA



PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR



SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA



B1 GANG

BY ATS11/JEA/FEVG



BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON



MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL



HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER



LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



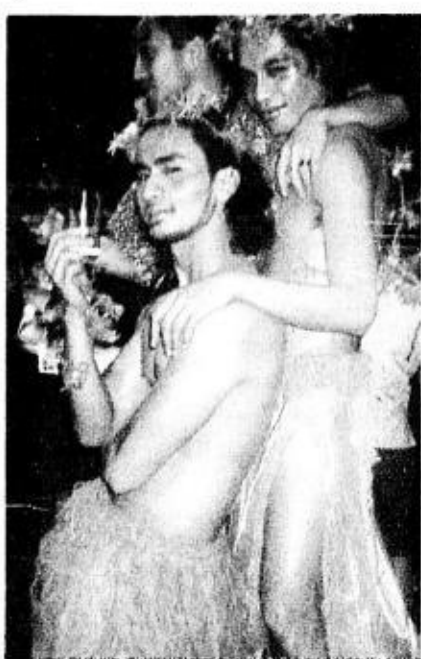
TULDOK

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING





A TOAST with the devil, "Indulge!"



ORANGE ORGASM. Junnel Liwanag and Ed Ariel on side view



I THINK I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree.



EXPATS UNITE!
Eva Hedberg and Ted McDonnell



EL PARTY.
Doctors on board, Eric Tan and Ed Tolentino

A late summer night's wet dream



DENIM DELIGHT. Vina Morales in subtle seduction

"LOOK up, young man. Look up." That was what an excited partyophile whispered in my ear as I entered the NBC tent for the Asian launch of Absolut Mandarin.

But I have already noticed that, instead of the usual air kisses and cheek-to-cheek action that happens in all parties, partyphiles had their eyes glued to the ceiling.

It turned out that some "fairy orange" was making its descent and, just like a butterfly hovering over a bloom, she was flying around a giant avant garde replica of the Absolut Mandarin bottle.

A thousand oranges formed that giant—27-ft—centerpiece. The venue was arranged to look like the setting for "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Topless fairies flitted around the tent area, tempting guests with the scene's latest love potion—shots of citrus seduction, Absolut Mandarin.

The night's festivities were perfect for enticing a lover. First, tease the guests with just a hint of what's to come, maybe a peel-off invite with the word "indulge." Second, create the mood with the sweet aroma of herbs and citrus. Third, leisurely stimulate the crowd visually, aurally and orally with progressive music, entertainment and limitless



Tim Yap

booze—all done in an absolutely adrenaline-pumping fabulous way!

"We are proud to be the first country in Asia to carry the newest Absolut variant," said Chiqui Torres-Tan, chic in a golden Mandarin cheongsam with a slit on the side, which goes from here to eternity. For a minute there, I forgot about Kumander Robot.

"Filipinos are really sweet," Absolut big bosses Eva Hedberg and Ted McDonnell were overheard whispering to each other as they nibbled the luscious concoctions. I hope more foreigners think the same way, too.

Then I woke up from my dream.



ABSOLUT MANDARIN. Chiqui Tan and Erich Edralin



DESIGNER'S DREAMS. Mimi Tan, Gerry Katigbak and Juliet Tan



BASEMENT SEDUCTION. Kathy Webb invites you to her next salon in Rockwell. And, oh, of course, the drink.



HAVE A TASTE. Harry de Guzman asks us to try his concoction.

Bioessence

SLIMMING CENTER

I have to be in my swimsuit best!

I knew I had to **LOSE 5 to 10 lbs.** in the shortest possible time. And I didn't have the inclination to go on workout sessions. Thanks to **Bioessence**, I lost pounds through their very **SAFE** and **EFFECTIVE** treatments which do not require exercise, pills and surgery. It's all natural -- giving me the

DREAM BODY."

Avail of our **TUMMY WRAP** For as low as **P400**

A combination of our natural body slimming treatments will give you a guaranteed weight loss in no time at all.

fat breaker cellulite massage muscle toning

BRANCHES

<p>CAINTA 681-5310 681-7339 3rd Level, Phase 2, Sta. Lucia East, Grandmall</p> <p>LAS PIÑAS 873-5784 873-8830 2/F, Uniwide, Las Piñas</p> <p>SM MEGAMALL 634-3310 634-3311 SM, Building 2, SM Megamall</p>	<p>WEST AVE. 372-2648 372-2649 68 Carol Bldg., West Ave., Q.C.</p> <p>LIPA (043) 404-1726 (043) 404-1727 2/F Plaza Vista Mall Bansagay Maruya Lipa City</p> <p>ZAMBOANGA (062) 992-3002 Nakaz St., Zamboanga City</p>	<p>SM BACOR (046) 502-3568 (046) 571-1536 Lower Ground Floor, SM Bacor</p> <p>DAVAO CITY (082) 226-2305 (082) 224-0361 Cromwellville Rd., Norton Heights</p> <p>PAMPANGA (045) 961-1876 (045) 961-1887 Queensland Central Plaza, Mall of Asia, Cebu</p>	<p>SM FAIRVIEW 419-7549 419-7552 Lower Ground Floor, SM City</p> <p>GREENBELT 813-3601 813-3617 LPI Town Center, 112 Legaspi St., Legaspi Vll., Makati City</p> <p>SM SOUTHMALL Link 10 Lower GF SM Southmall, Las Piñas City SOON TO OPEN</p>
---	--	--	---

BINONDO HOTLINE: 242-0621 • 242-2631
OPEN ON SUNDAYS Mail Hours: 10AM-8PM Clinic Hours: 8AM-8PM **FREE CONSULTATION**

Move up or move out

with **zed**

Horoscope plus.

If you want advice on your next career move, turn to zed Horoscope plus. Get your daily career-related horoscope or zodiac sign logo right on your cell phone. We've also got advice for the hopeless romantic (keyword: LH <SIGN>), advice with machismo (keyword: MH <SIGN>), a feminine touch (keyword: FH <SIGN>) plus tips on how to deal with teen-related issues (keyword: TH <SIGN>).

Check out your own zodiac logo!

LOGO ARIES	LOGO LEO	LOGO SAGITTARIUS
LOGO TAURUS	LOGO VIRGO	LOGO CAPRICORN
LOGO GEMINI	LOGO LIBRA	LOGO AQUARIUS
LOGO CANCER	LOGO SCORPIO	LOGO PISCES

How to get a logo:

1 Type in LOGO <SIGN> Ex.: LOGO LEO.	2 Send to 288.	3 Save upon receiving logo.
---	----------------	-----------------------------

How to get your career horoscope for the day:

1 Type in CH <SIGN> Ex.: CH LEO	2 Send to 288.	3 You will receive your career horoscope in a moment.
------------------------------------	----------------	---

Services available exclusively to SMART Gold, SMART Buddy and Talk N' Text subscribers. Logos available to selected Nokia phones only. P12.00 for every successful download of logo. P2.50 per horoscope received.

www.zed.com

WARNER MUSIC PHILIPPINES

IN COOPERATION WITH

NESCAFÉ, SPEED CARD, ASIA, nesVita, MAGIC 89.9

BRING YOU

NEW SPECIAL EDITION "MUSIC FROM THE BUFFET TABLE" OUT NOW! WITH FREE VCD OF "THE DANCE" AND "MONEY FOR FOOD"

"THE CRADLE ROCKS THE BARS"

The Barbie's Cradle Bar Tour

Catch the country's hottest band as they hit the coolest G spots in town on the following dates:

8th DAY, Ortigas - July 13
Nth DEGREE, Malate - July 17
PADI'S POINT, Jupiter St., Makati - July 20
PADI'S POINT, Mindanao Ave. - July 24
WATERING HOLE, Ortigas - July 26
JEKYL & HYDE, La Salle - July 27
SOUTHERN BULLS, West Ave. - July 30

*All shows start at 10:00 P.M.

AN EVENTSCAPE PRODUCTION

Globe Handyphone Prepaid Plus

**Class favorites
made more popular!**

Nokia 3310

~~P8,890~~
P6,290



Nokia 5110i

~~P8,890~~
P4,390



Siemens C30

P4,990



Nokia 3330*

P9,490
*with GlobeXplore



Motorola
V2288

P2,990

CLASS ACT

a back-2-school offering

WANNA BE COOL IN SCHOOL? WE'VE GOT THE HOTTEST PHONES ON OUR ROLL-CALL!

WITH P300 WORTH OF PREPAID CREDITS FREE!
SO HURRY AND GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER NOW!



ALSO AVAILABLE GLOBEXPLORE SIM PACK FOR P990 AND THE STANDARD SIM PACK FOR ONLY P690

Globe
HANDYPHONE
Prepaid Plus

